

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER
AIR FORCE ROTC (AETC)**

AIR FORCE ROTC INSTRUCTION 36-2008

25 AUGUST 2004



Personnel

AFROTC CADET UNIFORMS AND INSIGNIA

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This instruction prescribes policies, procedures, and standards governing wear of Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC) cadet uniforms. For authority to purchase uniforms see AFROTCI 23-1001, *Air Force ROTC Logistics Procedures*, and AFOATSI 65-102, *The Air Force ROTC Uniform Commutation Program*.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

★This change incorporates IC 2004-1 (Attachment 2); updates procedures for recommending changes to cadet uniforms, insignia, awards, and logistical procedures (2.1.2.); updates Tables 3.2. and 3.3; allows wear of Rigger belt with BDUs (3.3.1.8.); allows wear of lightweight blue jacket indoors (3.3.5.); allows addition of USAF logo to lightweight blue jacket and provides instructions on embroidery (3.3.5.1. – 3.3.5.2.); adds instruction on wear of all-weather coat when indoors (3.3.6.); makes white v-neck T-shirt with service uniform optional for females (3.3.8.1.); changes requirements for book bags and book bag wear (3.5.2.); authorizes black cell phone, pager, and beeper (3.5.3.); clarifies instructions on wear of sunglasses and authorized conservative ornamentation (3.5.5.); updates guidance on bracelets and watches (3.5.6.2.); adds guidance on military creases (3.5.7.); adds guidance for Hands in Pockets (3.5.8.); allows black spherical earrings for females (3.5.6.4.2.); adds instructions on male haircuts (3.6.1.1.); allows black hair pins with all hair colors (3.6.2.1.); revises instructions on book bag wear for injured cadets (3.7.2.); deletes 3.7.2.1. and 3.7.2.2; mandates black socks with BDUs (5.5.3.); corrects fastening of patches on FDU (6.3.2.1.); authorizes scarves with the FDU (6.5.5.); clarifies wear of headgear with the PTU (7.3.2.); adds authorization of Gold/Silver combination “Prop & Wings” for specific cadets (10.4.1.3.); and adds Figures 10.24. and 10.25. A star (★) indicates changed information from the previous version.

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Chapter 1

FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

1.1. AFROTC Commander (AFROTC/CC). Directs the AFROTC cadet uniform program, to include:

1.1.1. Serves as the decision authority on uniform and awards changes, and recommendation authority for changes requiring USAF Uniform Board approval.

1.1.2. Directs the convening of, and provides guidance and vision for the AFROTC Uniform Board.

1.2. AFROTC Chief, Operations Division (AFROTC/DO).

1.2.1. Serves as Chairman of the AFROTC Uniform Board.

1.2.2. Convenes the AFROTC Uniform Board IAW paragraph [2.1](#) of this instruction and at other times as directed by AFROTC/CC.

1.2.3. Makes recommendations to AFROTC/CC for uniform changes.

1.2.4. Directs the Field Training (FT) uniform program, including uniform requirements and issue procedures.

1.2.5. Serves as certification authority for this instruction.

1.2.6. Serves as waiver authority for uniform matters governed by this instruction.

1.3. AFROTC Operations Support (AFROTC/DOS).

1.3.1. Serves as the proponent for this instruction.

1.3.2. Serves as member of the AFROTC Uniform Board.

1.3.3. Serves as waiver authority for uniform matters governed by this instruction as delegated by AFROTC/DO.

1.3.4. Collects and researches recommendations and questions concerning the AFROTC cadet uniform program for AFROTC Uniform Board consideration.

1.4. Detachment Commanders.

1.4.1. Ensures detachment adherence to this instruction, including proper cadet uniform dress and appearance.

1.4.2. Ensures proper issue of uniforms to cadets at the detachment and in preparation for FT.

1.4.3. Makes recommendations to AFROTC/DO for uniform changes pertaining to detachment wear.

1.5. Field Training Unit Commanders (FTU/CC).

1.5.1. Ensures proper wear of the cadet uniform while at FT.

1.5.2. Makes recommendations to AFROTC/DO for uniform changes pertaining to FT.

1.5.3. Resolves cadet uniform discrepancies or deficiencies directly with the cadet's detachment commander. Immediately following initial cadet inventory, reports all cadet uniform discrepancies and deficiencies by detachment to the AFROTC/DO and appropriate region commander.

Chapter 2

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES

2.1. Uniform Board Review.

2.1.1. Sequence of Events. AFROTC/DOS will staff uniform recommendations through AFROTC/DO to AFROTC/CC for decision and AFOATS Uniform Board review. AFROTC/DO will represent AFROTC at all AFOATS Uniform Boards held.

★**2.1.2. Recommending Changes.** Make recommendations for changes to AFROTC cadet uniforms, insignia, awards (see AFROTCI 36-2020, *AFROTC Cadet Awards and Decorations Program*), and logistical procedures with indorsements through detachment and region chains of command to AFROTC/DOS.

2.2. Policy. The AFROTC cadet uniform is, with certain exceptions, the same as that worn by active duty personnel. Each cadet is responsible for maintaining the uniform in good order, and for wearing it correctly. Detachment cadre will ensure this instruction is readily accessible to all cadets.

2.2.1. Adherence to Air Force Instruction. Unless otherwise amended or excepted by this instruction, cadets will adhere to the provisions for wear of the Air Force uniform as prescribed in AFI 36-2903, *Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel*.

2.2.2. Personal Appearance. Cadet standards of personal appearance are the same as those required of active duty personnel contained in AFI 36-2903. This includes Air Force policy concerning facial hair, body piercing and tattoos. Written notification of any facial hair waivers granted IAW AFI 36-2903 to a cadet by the detachment commander will be forwarded to the region commander. If Air Force requirements on personal appearance contradict university policy, contact AFROTC/DOS through your region commander for guidance.

2.2.3. Items Being Phased Out. Due to the special circumstances of the AFROTC program and funding limitations, special procedures must be used for items being phased out of the Air Force uniform inventory. Refer to AFOATSI 65-102 for commutation specific phase out guidance.

2.2.3.1. Detachments will not discontinue item issue, dispose of items, or remove items from inventory due to a phase out date in AFI 36-2903 unless specifically directed by HQ AFROTC.

2.2.3.2. Continue to use the item until you would normally dispose of it due to wear and a current replacement item is available, or you receive disposition instructions concerning the item from HQ AFROTC. Replace obsolete items when currently authorized replacement items become available in detachment inventory. Detachments should take reasonable steps to remove obsolete items from their uniform inventory. Contact AFROTC/DOSL for guidance as needed.

2.2.4. Issue. Refer to AFROTCI 23-1001, *Air Force ROTC Logistics Procedures*, or AFOATSI 65-102, *The Air Force ROTC Uniform Commutation Program* for information on authorized uniform items, quantities of issue, and issue/turn-in procedures and requirements.

2.2.5. Detachments will not issue a uniform to a student until all application requirements are complete and the student is currently eligible or will be eligible (as can be reasonably ascertained) for the planned semester of membership. Special, Non-US Citizen, and pursuing students may be issued the cadet uniform under special circumstances prescribed in AFROTCI 36-2011, *Administration of Senior Air Force ROTC Cadets*. Detachments will ensure completed AFROTC IMT 16, **AFROTC Cadet Counseling Record**, are on file before issuing uniforms to these students. In addition, Special Students who are currently qualified or will be qualified must have a detachment commander waiver to participate in Leadership Laboratory (LLAB) prior to uniform issue. Waivers will be documented on AFROTC IMT 16. Special Students who are not qualified for the POC require AFROTC/DO waiver to be issued a uniform. However, commutation payments will be made only for those students listed in AFOATSI 65-102.

2.3. Waivers and Recommendations.

2.3.1. Waiver Requests. HQ AFROTC/DOS grants waivers to this instruction unless otherwise specified.

2.3.2. New Waiver Requests. Route proposals for new or changed uniform items through the detachment and region commanders for concurrence prior to forwarding to AFROTC/DOS. Reference the paragraph in the instruction for which a waiver is requested and accurately describe the request in detail.

2.3.3. Previously Approved Waivers. As of the effective date of this instruction, all previous uniform waivers are rescinded. Detachments have a period of six months from the effective date of this instruction to request new uniform waivers, or to revert back to compliance with this instruction.

2.3.4. Waiver of Wear. The detachment commander may waive the requirement for cadet wear of the uniform when such wear could result in unnecessary damage to the uniform. For example, a cadet who must attend a physical science laboratory on a day when wear of the uniform is mandatory may receive a wear waiver for that class period only. If a cadet is on crutches due to injuries, the Battle Dress Uniform (BDU) may be substituted for the service uniform ("blues"). Waivers will be documented on AFROTC IMT 16 and be given only on a case-by-case basis, for a specific time period, and designate appropriate alternate periods of uniform wear for cadets excused under this provision.

Chapter 3

GENERAL UNIFORM INSTRUCTIONS

3.1. General Uniform Wear. Except as otherwise authorized in this instruction, cadets will wear the service uniform for at least one full day per school week, regardless of length of school week, during their attendance at LLAB periods, and for Practical Military Training (PMT) as directed by the detachment commander. Wear of the uniform for AFROTC academic classes on other school days is at the detachment commander's discretion.

3.1.1. Uniform Wear On Campus. Cadets may wear the uniform at any university establishment, including cross-town schools, so long as the uniform is kept neat, clean, and in good condition and the activity engaged in does not reflect negatively on the image of the Air Force.

3.1.2. Uniform Wear Off Campus. Uniform wear in off-campus facilities should be comparable to that of clothing worn by civilians in the establishment. (Refer to [Table 3.1.](#) and [Table 5.1.](#)) Cadets may wear BDUs or the Flight Dress Uniform (FDUs) off-campus to dine in local establishments frequented by civilian workers wearing work clothing comparable to BDUs or FDUs, regardless of whether or not the establishment offers waiter and waitress service. Cadets are cautioned to select a dining establishment that satisfies these criteria. If the dress code of the establishment, whether written or unwritten, is of more formal dress, BDUs or FDUs will not be worn in the establishment. Cadets will not wear these uniforms to off-campus establishments to do extended shopping, dining, socializing or to take part in any form of entertainment. These uniforms will not be worn in establishments where the primary function is to sell and serve alcohol, except on military installations

(example: Officers' Clubs). Detachment commanders are encouraged to set more specific policy on local establishments acceptable for BDU or FDU wear.

3.1.3. Uniform of the Day and Leadership Laboratory (LLAB). The service uniform is the primary uniform of the day for most AFROTC activities and must be worn for at least one full day per school week, regardless of length of school week. The service uniform must be worn at LLAB at least once per month.

3.1.3.1. Detachment commanders may authorize more liberal wear of BDUs during the spring semester for cadets preparing for FT to ensure correct wear of BDUs and breaking in of boots.

3.1.3.2. BDUs may take the place of the service uniform as the uniform of the day or at LLAB no more than twice per month.

3.1.4. Recruiting Events. The service uniform (any combination) is the primary uniform for recruiting events. Detachment commanders may authorize any cadet to wear BDUs during selected recruiting activities, but at least one cadet present must be in the service uniform. FDUs may only be worn by qualified cadets IAW paragraph 6.1.1. **Exception:** Detachment commanders may waive the uniform requirement only if there are no cadets present at the recruiting activity that have been issued a uniform.

3.1.5. Military Institutions. At institutions where distinctive types of uniforms are required, AFROTC cadets will wear the uniform prescribed in institutional directives. These institutions are The Citadel, Texas A&M University, Norwich University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and Virginia Military Institute. Special attention must be paid to ensuring cadets at these institutions are trained on proper wear of the Air Force uniform prior to participation in FT and commissioning.

3.1.6. Field Training (FT) Uniforms. FT uniform requirements differ slightly from detachment requirements. FT uniform requirements can be found in AFROTCI 23-1001, AFROTCI 36-2010, *AFROTC Field Training Program*, AFROTCMAN 36-203, *Field Training Manual*, and AFOATSI 65-102. See AFROTC IMT 2, **Field Training Uniform Checklist**, for specific FT uniform requirements.

3.1.7. Air Travel.

3.1.7.1. Military Aircraft. Cadets will wear BDUs or FDUs while traveling aboard military aircraft between military installations. Detachment commanders may authorize wear of civilian clothes if uniforms have not been issued.

3.1.7.2. Commercial Aircraft. Cadets will not wear the AFROTC uniform while traveling aboard commercial aircraft. See [Table 3.1.](#), notes 1 and 2.

3.2. Unauthorized Uniform Wear. The AFROTC uniform will not be worn to any establishment or while participating in any activity that may bring discredit upon the USAF or AFROTC.

3.2.1. No item of the AFROTC cadet uniform is authorized for wear by anyone who is not authorized issue per paragraph [2.2.5.](#) of this instruction.

3.2.2. Unauthorized wear of the uniform or distinctive items of the uniform is prohibited and punishable under federal law.

3.2.3. Wearing of unearned ribbons, badges, or accoutrements constitutes an Honor Code violation IAW AFROTCI 36-2017, paragraph 1.2.3.3.2.

3.2.4. Cadets will not wear the uniform (including the Physical Training Uniform (PTU) in part or in whole) under any circumstances that cannot be reasonably expected to bring credit to the Air Force or AFROTC, as determined by the detachment commander.

3.2.5. Extracurricular Activities. Cadets may not wear the cadet uniform while participating in non-military extracurricular activities, unless specifically authorized by the detachment commander. (See [Table 3.1.](#))

3.2.6. Cadets will not wear the uniform while participating in political events, student demonstrations, or when working as guards, parking lot attendants, runners, messengers, baggage handlers, crowd control, or in any other non-military capacity. Use of cadets in uniform for these types of activities is only authorized if participating in a military-sponsored event and approved by the detachment commander. Use of cadets in the service uniform as ushers may be permitted when it can be reasonably expected to bring credit to the uniform. Determination of the propriety of an event will be documented in a Memorandum for Record by the detachment commander and kept on file.

3.2.7. Under no circumstances will detachment personnel enter a demonstration and remove a uniformed cadet involved in the demonstration. The incident will be reported to the detachment commander who will then advise the cadet, in writing (use AFROTC IMT 16), of the impropriety of wearing the uniform under these circumstances.

3.2.8. Detachment commanders should restrict uniform wear by underweight or over body-fat cadets when the cadets do not portray a proper military image while in uniform.

3.3. Authorized Uniform Items. Uniform items not listed in this instruction paid for IAW AFOATSI 65-102, but authorized for wear in AFI 36-2903, may be authorized for wear by cadets if purchased at their own expense. However, detachment cadre should not encourage or discourage cadets to use personal funds to purchase items not covered in this instruction. Cadets must ensure they are wearing the uniform item properly, including the wear of cadet rank insignia. Questions concerning proper wear of uniform items not listed in this instruction can be addressed to AFROTC/DOS.

3.3.1. Exceptions. Cadet airmen may not wear the items listed below. Only cadet officers may wear the following items if purchased at their own expense:

3.3.1.1. Corfam shoes/pumps.

3.3.1.2. Alternate styles of black combat boots.

3.3.1.3. Service caps. If worn for other than Color/Honor Guard or Drill Team purposes, wear the same insignia as active duty officers. Insignia must also be purchased at the expense of the cadet.

3.3.1.4. Black T-shirts with BDUs and FDU (except local wear of detachment T-shirts as authorized in paragraph 3.3.8.3.).

3.3.1.5. Over-blouses (un-tucked style) for female cadets.

3.3.1.6. Hospital white uniform as per Chapter 9.

3.3.1.7. Shade 1625 trousers/slacks.

★**3.3.1.8.** Authorizes Rigger belts to be worn with BDUs by cadet officers. (See paragraph 3.3.1. listing items authorized for wear only by cadet officers.)

3.3.2. “Watch” Caps. If approved by the detachment commander and purchased by the cadet, black “watch” caps may only be worn with the BDU IAW paragraph 5.3.3., with the FDU IAW paragraph 6.4.2., or with the PTU IAW paragraph 7.3.4. Black “watch” caps authorized for wear are those purchased from military clothing sales stores or comparable style solid black “watch” cap if approved by the detachment commander.

3.3.3. Maternity Uniform. Maternity Uniform. Cadets may purchase the maternity uniform at their own expense for wear IAW AFI 36-2903 after verbal concurrence from the detachment commander. If the cadet does not procure a maternity uniform, detachment commanders may waive uniform wear for pregnant cadets from the time the cadet is unable to wear the regular uniform until the pregnancy is complete (See paragraphs 2.3.4. and 3.2.8.).

3.3.4. Parkas. Certain detachments are authorized to issue the parka in lieu of field jackets. Detachments not currently authorized parkas that wish to gain authorization should contact AFROTC/DOSL for information concerning necessary justification. Detachments should forward the request, including the required justifying information, to AFROTC/DOSL (for IIK schools) or AFOATS/SDF (for commutation schools), in turn, through their region commander.

★**3.3.5.** Lightweight Blue Jacket. Cadets are authorized to wear the lightweight blue jacket IAW AFI 36-2903. If not issued by the detachment, cadets may purchase for wear. When worn, jackets must be zipped up at least halfway. Jackets are not authorized for wear when the service dress uniform is designated or more appropriate. Wear over the pullover sweater is authorized; however, sweater must not be exposed. Jackets may be worn with or without the insulated liner. Jackets are authorized to be worn indoors. Wear metallic rank insignia on the epaulets as described in paragraph 10.2.3. and Figure 10.3.

★**3.3.5.1.** USAF Logo. AS 400 cadets and extended cadets are authorized to wear the embroidered USAF logo on the lightweight blue jacket. Detachment funds may be used for alterations. Lightweight blue jackets with embroidered USAF logo will be issued to AS 400 and extended cadets at the first LLAB of the fall term. No other cadet is authorized wear of the USAF logo on the lightweight blue jacket.

★**3.3.5.2. Configuration.**

★**3.3.5.2.1.** The Air Force logo is to be embroidered in a polyester thread conforming to DOD Heraldic Yarn for Embroidery and Ribbon, Cable # HA White 67101 with a stiff tear-off backing. The total stitch count of the logo and lettering shall be 4,631 stitches minimum.

★**3.3.5.2.2.** The Wing symbol is to fit within a 2 inch by 2 1/8 inch square. There is a 1/4 inch space between the symbol's lowest point and the top of the U.S. AIR FORCE type (a). The U.S. AIR FORCE type is to be 1/4 inch high, 3 1/4 inches long is Berthord Aklindenz Grotesk bold extended. If Berthord Aklindenz Grotesk is not available, use all capital Arial bold font, 24 point. (See [Figure 10.24](#). for example.)

★**3.3.5.2.3.** The symbol is to be embroidered on the upper left chest. The dot in the center of the symbol shall be centered vertically between the shoulder seam and where the underarm side seam joins the armhole sleeve and centered horizontally between the center zipper and the sleeve armhole seam. (See [Figure 10.25](#). for example.)

★**3.3.6. All-Weather Coat.** Cadets are authorized to wear the all-weather coat IAW AFI 36-2903. If not issued by the detachment, cadets may purchase for wear. When worn, the all-weather coat should fit over the service dress jacket loose enough to accommodate the shoulders of the service dress jacket without binding at the armholes when the arms are removed. Sleeves will extend 1/2 inch beyond the service dress jacket sleeves. The length of the coat will fall between knee length to 6 inches below the back crease of the knee. The top button may be left unbuttoned when worn. Jackets may be worn with or without the insulated liner. The all-weather coat is not authorized to be worn indoors. Wear metallic rank insignia on the epaulets as described in paragraph [10.2.3](#). and [Figure 10.3](#).

3.3.7. Pullover and Cardigan Sweaters. The blue pullover or cardigan sweater is authorized for wear by cadets if purchased at their own expense. Cloth shoulder mark insignia will be worn on the epaulets as described in paragraph [10.2.1](#). The sweater may be worn as an indoor or outdoor garment. Ties/tie tabs are optional. The collar of the shirt/blouse may be worn inside or outside of the sweater. The sweater will not be exposed when wearing another outer garment. When wearing the cardigan sweater outdoors, all buttons must be buttoned. IAW paragraph [10.6.2](#)., cadet officers wear the silver nametag on the pullover sweater. Cadet airmen will not wear the silver nametag.

NOTE: Local commanders retain the option to require the wear of a tie or tab with all uniform combinations based on specific circumstances.

3.3.8. T-shirts. Except as authorized in paragraph 3.3.1.4., the following t-shirts are authorized for wear:

★**3.3.8.1.** White v-neck T-shirts are required for wear by male cadets with the service uniform (optional for female cadets). Only the white v-neck T-shirt will be worn with the service uniform. Tank top style t-shirts are not authorized. White v-neck t-shirts are purchased at the expense of the cadet.

3.3.8.2. Cadet airmen will wear issued brown T-shirts with BDUs. Cadet officers may wear black T-shirts IAW paragraph 3.3.1.4.

3.3.8.3. Detachments may design a detachment T-shirt for local wear at the detachment to be worn with the BDUs and FDUs. T-shirts will be black and comply with AFI 36-2903. T-shirts may contain emblems to be worn on the left side of chest, not to exceed 5 inches in diameter. No artwork or writing will be placed on the back of the T-shirt. No commutation or Issue-in-Kind (IIK) funds may be used for purchase of detachment T-shirts.

3.4. Cadet Rank. This instruction refers to cadet airmen and cadet officers based on definitions provided in AFROTCI 36-2017, *AFROTC College Program*, paragraph 4.7.

3.4.1. Cadet Rank at FT. Cadets will wear the rank of Cadet Third Class (C/3C) while participating in FT.

3.4.2. Cadet Rank at Special Programs or Professional Development Training (PDT). Cadet airmen will wear the rank of Cadet Third Class (C/3C) while participating in any Special Program or PDT between the AS 100 – AS 200 years and between the AS 200 – AS 300 years. Cadet officers will wear the last rank held at the detachment when participating in Special Programs or PDT.

3.5. Additional Instructions.

3.5.1. Alteration and Exchange. No alteration of any item (other than basic hemming and normal alterations necessary for regular wear of the uniform) will be made by a cadet without prior approval from the uniform custodian. Uniforms will not be custom tailored to the individual cadet.

★**3.5.2. Book bags.** Book bags (solid dark blue or solid black in color) are authorized for wear with any uniform. If wearing a book bag with the uniform, the bag should present an acceptable appearance and be in good condition. Book bags may be worn over both of the cadet's shoulders. If cadet chooses to wear a book bag over one shoulder, it must be worn over the left shoulder. If wearing BDUs, cadets are also authorized to wear woodland camouflage or olive drab color book bags. Book bags that are not authorized colors must be carried in the left hand, except as authorized for safety concerns in paragraph 3.7. Book bags provided by AFROTC as recruiting promotional items or other AFROTC provided book bags may be worn if the detachment commander determines they are consistent with the professional image intended by this paragraph. Only solid black color book bags are

authorized when worn off-campus or on military installations. Although many colors are authorized on campus, it is recommended that cadets use solid black color book bags as they are the most versatile, may be worn with any uniform combination, and may be worn on or off-campus and on military installations.

- ★**3.5.3. Cellular phones, pagers, and beepers.** Authorize one small, black, nondescript personal digital assistant (PDA), pager, or cellular phone at a time be worn on the uniform belt. Use of a black case or cover is authorized if the device is not black.

3.5.4. Outergarments will be removed indoors.

- ★**3.5.5. Sunglasses and Eyeglasses.** Sunglasses and eyeglasses will be conservative in style (no faddish or mirrored lenses are authorized.) No sunglasses will be worn when in formation, unless prescribed by an optometrist. Sunglasses will not be worn around the neck, on the top of the head, or hanging from the uniform in any way. Frames may be black or brown material or gold/silver wire. Conservative wrap-around style sunglasses are authorized. Small, conservative ornamentation on nonprescription sunglasses and eyeglasses is authorized. Brand name glasses may be worn with a small, conservative logo on the frames of lens. If worn, the logo must be same color as frames or lens.

3.5.6. Jewelry in Uniform. Wear of jewelry may be further restricted at FT or during training as directed by the detachment commander. See [Table 3.2](#).

3.5.6.1. Rings. cadets may wear no more than three rings total at any given time, to include wedding rings. Rings may not be bulky or flashy.

- ★**3.5.6.2. Bracelets and Watches.** Cadets may wear one conservative watch and one conservative colored bracelet (silver, gray, black, medium to dark blue, medium to dark shades of brown, including POW/MIA bracelets or medical bracelets) that does not detract from a proper military image, and is not wider than one inch. Only one bracelet or watch may be worn on each wrist.

3.5.6.3. Necklaces. Necklaces may be worn but must not be visible in uniform (must be concealed under collar or undershirt) and must be conservative in style.

3.5.6.4. Earrings.

3.5.6.4.1. Males. Earrings will not be worn by male cadets when in uniform or when on military installations, whether in or out of uniform.

- ★**3.5.6.4.2. Females.** Earrings may be worn by female cadets if they are small and conservative. They must be white pearl, gold, silver, black, or diamond, and be spherical in shape (studs). Earrings may be worn with all uniforms except when it is determined to be a safety problem. Earrings may be clip-on, but they must fit tightly against the ear and must not extend below the earlobe. Only one earring may be worn in each earlobe.

★**3.5.7. Military creases.** Military creases are not authorized in AF Uniforms. Creases will only be on sleeves and pant legs.

★**3.5.8. Hands in pockets.** In accordance with AFI 36-2903, placing hands in pockets for reasons other than retrieving items is not authorized.

3.6. Personal Grooming Standards.

3.6.1. Male Standards

★**3.6.1.1.** Hair will present a tapered appearance on both the sides and back, both with and without headgear. A tapered appearance is one that when viewed from any angle outlines the cadet's hair so that it conforms to the shape of the head, curving inward to the natural termination point not touch the ears. Only closely cut or shaved hair on the back of the neck will touch the collar. Hair will not exceed 1¼ inch in length or ¼ inch at the natural termination point. Block cut is permitted with tapered appearance. Hair in the front will not protrude from under the flight cap when worn. No visible foreign items will be attached to the hair. Males cadets are authorized to cleanly shave their heads or have military high- and tight haircuts. See [Table 3.3.](#), line 4.

3.6.1.2. Sideburns will be neatly trimmed and tapered in the same manner as the haircut. They will not extend below the lowest part of the exterior ear opening (except for individuals with shaving waivers), they will be of an even width (no flares), and will end with a clean shaven, horizontal line. See [Table 3.3.](#), line 8.

3.6.1.3. A neatly trimmed mustache is permitted. It will not extend downward beyond the lipline of the upper lip or extend sideways beyond a vertical line drawn upward from the corner of the mouth (this does not apply to cadets with shaving waivers). See [Table 3.3.](#), line 6.

3.6.1.4. Beards are prohibited except as prescribed for medical reasons and only if authorized by the detachment commander. Cadets with shaving waivers will not be required to shave any facial hair, but will ensure facial hair will be neat, trimmed, and not exceed ¼ inches in length. Cadre will monitor progress in treatment. See [Table 3.3.](#), line 1.

3.6.2. Female Standards

★**3.6.2.1.** Hair will be clean and neatly arranged. It will not be worn in any style which falls below the bottom edge of the collar while in uniform (to include straggling or "wispy" strands of hair), exceed 3 inches in bulk, or prevent the proper wear of headgear. Hair may be visible in front of the flight cap, but will not touch the eyebrows. Decorative hair ornaments such as ribbons may not be worn. Pins, combs, or barrettes, similar in color to the individual's hair, may be worn to keep hair in place, unless participating in an activity where such pins are unsafe. Conservative, black pins, barrettes, etc., may be worn with all hair colors. See [Table 3.3.](#), line 5.

3.6.2.1.1. Ponytails are authorized only at commander's discretion and the provisions of the above paragraph. See [Table 3.3.](#), line 5a.

3.6.2.2. Cosmetics will be conservative and in good taste. One nail polish color may be worn, provided the nails are well-groomed and the color is conservative. No ornamentation will be worn on the nails. See [Table 3.3.](#), lines 2 and 7.

3.7. Exceptions for Safety.

3.7.1. Wear of Uniform on Motor Vehicles. Helmets are required and book bags will be worn on both shoulders when seated on vehicles that such wear is required for safety (i.e., motorcycles, bicycles).

3.7.2. Injured Cadets.

★**3.7.2.1.** Deleted.

★**3.7.2.2.** Deleted.

3.7.3. Inclement Weather. The detachment commander may temporarily waive the requirement for cadet wear of the uniform during periods of especially inclement weather.

Table 3.1. Wear of the Uniform (General Uniform Guidance).

Cadets:			
Wear	Do not wear	Optional (or as directed by Det Commander)	When:
X			Performing military duties, including off-campus AFROTC functions.
		X	Participating in campus/school-related functions in support of school spirit when doing so as a detachment.
	X		Participating in campus/school-related functions in support of school spirit when doing so as an individual.
		X	Participating in AFROTC sanctioned recruiting-related functions.
X			Traveling on military aircraft or vehicles to participate in Professional Development Training, Field Training, or base visits (see note 1, 2, and 3).
	X		Traveling on commercial aircraft or government contracted commercial flights or vehicles (see note 2 and 3).
	X		Uniform items do not meet specifications in this AFROTC Instruction or do not conform to Air Force specifications for wear.
	X		Going to establishments that operate primarily to serve alcohol.
	X		Participating in public or speeches, interviews, picket lines, marches or rallies, or in any public demonstration when the Air Force sanction of a cause for which the activity is conducted may be implied.
	X		Furthering political activities, private employment, or commercial interests.
	X		Performing on or off-campus personal employment.
	X		It would discredit the Armed Forces of the United States.
	X		In civilian attire. For example: mixing civilian and military attire (grade insignia, badges, patches, etc on civilian jackets or clothing.)
	X		Going to off-campus establishments to do extended shopping, dining, socializing or to take part in any form of entertainment.

Notes:

1. The detachment commander is the final authority on the propriety of uniform combinations worn.
2. Civilian clothing **must** be worn by cadets when traveling on government contracted commercial aircraft or vehicles for AFROTC functions (Professional Development Training, Field Training, etc.) unless all passengers on the aircraft or in the vehicle are military members or cadets. However, because cadets in this situation are representing AFROTC, civilian clothing must meet the standards listed in note 3 below.
3. If wearing civilian clothing, cadets will ensure it is neat, clean, warm enough for in-flight operations, and appropriate for the mode of travel and destination. Examples of inappropriate clothing include: ripped, torn, frayed, or patched clothing; tank tops, shorts, short skirts, undergarments worn as an outer-garment, bathing suits, sandals, and any garments that are revealing or contain obscene, profane, lewd words or drawings, clothing containing advertisements, or clothing containing references to alcohol.

★Table 3.2. Clothing/Accessory Standards.

Line	To present the proper military image	Will be
1	Clothing	Neat, clean, pressed, proper fit, in good condition, zipped, snapped or buttoned.
2	Footwear	Shined, in good repair.
3	Watch	Conservative. No more than one watch may be worn at a time.
★4	Bracelet	Cadets may wear one conservative watch and one conservative colored bracelet (silver, gray, black, medium to dark blue, medium to dark shades of brown, including POW/MIA bracelets or medical bracelets) that does not detract from a proper military image, and is not wider than one inch. Only one bracelet or watch may be worn on each wrist.
5	Rings	Conservative. A maximum of three at any time.
★6	Eyeglasses and sunglasses	Sunglasses and eyeglasses will be conservative in style (no faddish or mirrored lenses are authorized.) No sunglasses will be worn when in formation, unless prescribed by an optometrist. Sunglasses will not be worn around the neck, on the top of the head, or hanging from the uniform in any way. Frames may be black or brown material or gold/silver wire. Conservative wrap-around style sunglasses are authorized. Small, conservative ornamentation on nonprescription sunglasses and eyeglasses is authorized. Brand name glasses may be worn with a small, conservative logo on the frames of lens. If worn, the logo must be same color as frames or lens.
7	Necklaces	Conservative. Concealed under collar or undershirt.
8	Pencils and pens	Concealed.
★9	Beepers and cellular phone	Authorize one small, black, nondescript personal digital assistant (PDA), pager, or cellular phone at a time be worn on the uniform belt. Use of a black case or cover is authorized if the device is not black.
10	Headphones and earphones	Prohibited unless required to perform duties.
11	Umbrella	Plain, solid black or dark blue, carried in left hand.

Line	To present the proper military image	Will be
★ 12	Book bag/back pack, attaché case	Book bags (solid dark blue or solid black in color) are authorized for wear with any uniform. If wearing a book bag with the uniform, the bag should present an acceptable appearance and be in good condition. Book bags may be worn over both of the cadet's shoulders. If cadet chooses to wear a book bag over one shoulder, it must be worn over the left shoulder. If wearing BDUs, cadets are also authorized to wear woodland camouflage or olive drab color book bags. Book bags that are not authorized colors must be carried in the left hand, except as authorized for safety concerns in paragraph 3.7.2. Book bags provided by AFROTC as recruiting promotional items or other AFROTC provided book bags may be worn if the detachment commander determines they are consistent with the professional image intended by this paragraph. Only solid black color book bags are authorized when worn off-campus or on military installations. Although many colors are authorized on campus, it is recommended that cadets use solid black color book bags as they are the most versatile, may be worn with any uniform combination, and may be worn on or off-campus and on military installations.
13	Religious head covering	See AFI 36-2903 Table 2.6. Detachment commanders and FTU/CCs will consult with nearest USAF chaplain for guidance before approving religious head covering. If approved, covering must be concealed under headgear.
14	Other religious apparel and items	See AFI 36-2903 Table 2.6. Concealed or worn during religious services or at home. Do not wear approved items during parades, ceremonial drills and functions, or in official photos. Detachment commanders and FTU/CCs will consult with nearest USAF chaplain for further guidance before establishing policy for wear at detachment or FTU.
15	Reflective safety gear	Detachment commanders and FTU/CCs establish policy on wearing reflective arm, wrist, or waist bands with PTUs or other uniforms as necessary.
16	Motor safety items, rain suits	Wear while riding or operating two-wheeled vehicles.

★Table 3.3. Personal Grooming Standards.

Line	Item of Grooming (M-Men, W-Women)	Will be/have	Will not
1	Beards (M)		be worn except if authorized by commander for health reasons. Cadet must have a doctor's note and commander's permission. See paragraph 3.6.1.4. for further instructions. (See Note 2.)
2	Cosmetics (W)	conservative and in good taste.	
3	Hair, Overall Standard (M&W)	Clean, well-groomed, and neat. If dyed, will look natural.	contain excessive amounts of grooming aides or touch eyebrows when groomed.
★ 4	Hair Style (M)	a tapered appearance on both sides and back, both with or without headgear. Cleanly shaven heads and military high-and-tight haircuts are authorized. See paragraph 3.6.1.1. for further instruction.	be worn in an extreme or faddish style or violate safety requirements. Will not touch the ears and only closely cut or shaved hair on back of neck will touch collar. Will not exceed 1¼ inch in length, or ¼ inch at natural termination point. Will not have any visible foreign items attached.
★ 5	Hair Style (W)	Present a professional appearance. Plain, conservative pins, combs, headbands, elastic bands, and barrettes similar to hair color permitted to keep hair in place. Conservative black hairpins, etc., are authorized with all hair colors. See paragraph 3.6.2.1.	be worn in extreme or faddish style or violate safety requirements. Extend past parallel line with bottom edge of collar on any side. Exceed 3 inches in bulk. Prevent proper wear of headgear. Hair ornaments such as ribbons or jeweled pins prohibited.
5a	Ponytails	Worn only at commander's discretion.	extend past parallel line with bottom edge of collar, exceed 3 inches in bulk, or prevent proper wear of headgear. Hair ornaments prohibited.
6	Mustache (M)		extend downward beyond the lipline of the upper lip or extend sideways beyond a vertical line drawn upward from the corner of the mouth (does not apply to cadets with shaving waivers).
7	Nail Polish (W)	conservative, single color, and in good taste.	contain any ornamentation.
8	Sideburns (M)	Neatly trimmed and tapered. Will be straight and even in width (not flared) and end in a clean-shaven horizontal line.	extend below the lowest part of the exterior ear opening (does not apply to cadets with shaving waivers).

Notes:

1. The items listed represent common appearance issues. This list is not all inclusive.
2. Commanders do not have the authority to waive appearance and grooming standards except as identified in Table 3.3., line 1.

Chapter 4

SERVICE UNIFORM WEAR INSTRUCTIONS

4.1. Service Uniform. The service uniform (“blues”) is the official uniform for AFROTC training. It is issued to all cadets upon entry into the AFROTC program, as authorized by this instruction and AFROTCI 36-2011. The service uniform consists of the Shade 1620 service dress coat, trousers, long and short-sleeved shirts/blouses, tie/tie tab, as well as other required accoutrements (nametag, rank insignia, ribbons, badges, etc.). Several combinations of the service uniform exist, and for the purposes of this instruction, are defined as follows:

4.1.1. Short-sleeved Shirt/Blouse Combination (Summer Dress Uniform). During warmer months, cadets will wear this combination. Cadets wear the issued blue trousers/pants/skirt and short-sleeved blue shirt/blouse. Ties/tie tabs are optional. Soft rank is worn on the epaulets and the blue plastic nametag is worn. Ribbons, badges, and shoulder cords are optional, with the exception of cadet aeronautical badges, which are mandatory.

4.1.2. Long-sleeved Shirt/Blouse Combination. During colder months, detachment commanders may require this uniform to be worn. Cadets wear the issued blue trousers/pants/skirt and long-sleeved shirt/blouse with blue herringbone tie/tie tab (mandatory). Soft rank is worn on the epaulets and the blue plastic nametag is worn. Ribbons, badges, and shoulder cords are optional, with the exception of cadet aeronautical badges, which are mandatory.

4.1.3. Service Dress Uniform. This uniform combination is worn during colder months or at semi-formal to formal events as prescribed by the detachment commander. Cadets wear the issued blue trousers/pants/skirt, short/long-sleeved blue shirt/blouse, service dress jacket and the blue herringbone tie/tie tab. Ribbons and badges earned must be worn on the service dress jacket. Soft rank is worn on the epaulets of the shirt/blouse and the service dress jacket. The blue plastic nametag is worn on the shirt/blouse underneath. Cadet officers wear the silver service dress nametag on the service dress jacket. Cadet airmen wear no service dress nametag. Shoulder cords will be worn if authorized.

NOTE: Braid will not be worn on the shade 1620 service dress coat. If braid was previously sewn on, it does not need to be removed, but ensure the jacket is only issued to contracted cadets if at all possible. Remove from inventory through sale or rotation. Braid received with purchase of the service jacket will be retained and will be issued to commissioning cadets if the uniform is purchased. It may then be sewn on prior to commissioning at the commissioning cadet’s expense.

4.1.4. Semi-Formal Dress Uniform. This combination is worn in lieu of a mess dress at formal events as prescribed by the detachment commander. Cadets will wear their service dress uniform (as prescribed above) with a long-sleeved white oxford shirt/blouse (no button-down collar) in place of the light blue shirt/blouse. Male cadets will wear the blue herringbone neck tie and females will wear the blue collar tie tab that they would wear with their service dress uniform. No headgear will be worn with this uniform combination. White shirts/blouses will be purchased at the expense of the cadet.

4.1.4.1. Cadets will wear the semi-formal dress uniform or mess dress uniform (cadets will not wear civilian clothing: evening gowns, dresses, suits) when participating in their own detachment's military ball/dining out. When the costs associated with wear of the semiformal dress uniform are prohibitive, the detachment commander may give authorization (may be verbal) for local wear of the service dress uniform at formal social functions.

4.1.4.2. Civilian clothing is only authorized for wear if the cadet is participating as a guest at another detachment or another service's military ball/dining out, or if the cadet falls into a category which does not authorize them to wear the uniform (see paragraphs [2.2.5.](#) and [3.2.8.](#)).

4.2. Headgear. Cadet officers will be issued "Prop & Wings" flight cap insignia upon satisfactory completion of FT and entrance into the Professional Officer Course (POC) in conjunction with promotion to cadet officer rank (see AFROTCI 36-2017, paragraph 4.7.). Cadets will wear the officer flight cap with diamond braid (male or female) with all combinations of the service uniform, except when wearing the semi-formal dress uniform (para [4.1.4.](#)) or when participating in activities listed in [Chapter 8](#) of this instruction. Flight cap insignia will be worn by cadet officers only as described in paragraph [10.4.](#) and [Figures 10.5](#) and [10.6](#).

4.2.1. When not wearing the flight cap, it should be tucked under the belt on the left side between the first and second belt loop with the front edge of the flight cap hanging down and insignia (if applicable) visible. The opening of the flight cap should be toward the outside. The flight cap should not be seen above the belt. (See [Figures 4.1.](#) and [4.2.](#))

4.2.2. Company Grade Officer Service Caps (also known as "wheel cap" for males and "bucket cap" for females) and appropriate insignia may only be worn IAW AFI 36-2903, as well as [Chapter 8](#) and paragraph [3.3.1.3.](#) of this instruction.

4.3. Additional Instructions. Female cadets may be required to tuck in over blouses in formation or inspections as the detachment commander directs. Only the "tuck-in" style shirt will be issued to female cadets at government expense. Over-blouses will not be issued but may be worn by female cadet officers if bought at their own expense (see paragraph [3.3.1.5.](#)).

4.4. Mess Dress Wear. Wear of the mess dress uniform by cadet officers is encouraged. Costs associated with wear of the mess dress uniform are borne by the cadet.

4.4.1. Cadets may wear the mess dress or semi-formal dress uniform for official AFROTC formal social functions.

4.4.2. If the mess dress is worn, it will comply with the standards in AFI 36-2903, with the following modifications:

4.4.2.1. Cadets will wear hard shoulder boards with appropriate silver stripes to denote cadet rank. Hard shoulder boards will be purchased at the expense of the cadet. If

detachments have hard shoulder boards available, they can be issued to cadets for wear with the mess dress uniform. Cadets should contact the uniform custodian for commercial source and part numbers.

4.4.2.2. Cadet officers will wear silver sleeve braid. Cadet airmen will not wear silver sleeve braid.

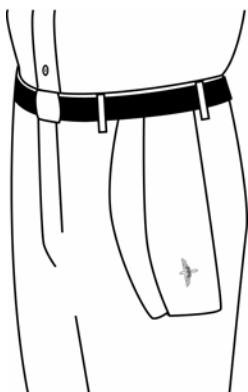
NOTE: Braid received with purchase of the mess dress should be retained by the cadet for wear as cadet officers and upon commissioning. Additionally, looping material designed to hold commissioned officer rank insignia on the shoulders of the mess dress uniform should be retained by the cadet for use upon commissioning.

4.4.3. Unless otherwise specified, wear awards and insignia in the same general location as on the service dress uniform. See paragraph 10.10. for further guidance on wear of insignia and badges on the mess dress uniform.

Figure 4.1. Flight Cap When Worn Under Belt (Cadet Airmen).



Figure 4.2. Flight Cap When Worn Under Belt (Cadet Officer).



Chapter 5

BATTLE DRESS UNIFORM (BDU) WEAR INSTRUCTIONS

5.1. BDU Issue Instructions.

5.1.1. Initial Issue. Issue one set of BDUs to cadets no earlier than the beginning of the second semester of the AS 100 year or first semester of enrollment if enrolled in a later AS year.

5.1.2. FT Issue. Issue a second set of BDUs to all cadets as part of FT uniform issue, normally during the semester immediately prior to FT participation. Ensure all cadets have two full sets of BDUs at least one semester prior to participation in FT.

5.2. Configuration. The following instructions apply to wear of the BDUs by AFROTC cadets:

5.2.1. BDUs will be configured with sewn-on name and U.S. Air Force tapes, as specified in AFI 36-2903.

5.2.2. Cadet officers will wear metallic black and silver officer rank insignia centered on the left and right collar, one inch from the front of the collar, with the silver stripe(s) perpendicular to the front of the collar. (See [Figure 5.1.](#))

5.2.3. Cadet airmen will wear metallic blue and silver Cadet Fourth Class (C/4C) or Cadet Third Class (C/3C) insignia centered on the left and right collar so that the long edge of the insignia is parallel to and one inch from the front edge of the collar. (See [Figure 5.2.](#))

5.3. BDU Headgear.

5.3.1. Cadets will wear the BDU cap with the BDUs. No insignia will be worn on the BDU cap.

5.3.2. Detachments may design a detachment ball cap for wear with the BDUs. Ball caps must be in compliance with Air Force policy, and must be approved by the detachment and region commander. If approved for wear, it may only be worn locally at the detachment. The detachment ball cap may not be worn with the PTU. No commutation or issue in kind funds may be expended for purchase of detachment ball caps. No insignia will be worn on the ball cap.

5.3.3. Detachment commanders may approve wear of the black “watch” cap with the BDU only while operating on a flight line during extremely cold or inclement weather if purchased by the cadet.

5.4. BDU Field Jacket. BDU Field Jackets are authorized for wear with BDUs when weather warrants it.

5.4.1. Wear metallic rank insignia on the BDU Field Jacket IAW paragraph 10.2.2. and Figure 10.3.

5.4.2. BDU nametape and U.S. Air Force tapes will not be worn on the field jacket.

5.5. Additional Instructions.

5.5.1. With detachment commander approval and if purchased by the cadet, black turtlenecks are authorized to be worn in place of T-shirt during periods of inclement weather IAW AFI-2903 Table 2.2. item 11 (male) and Table 2.4, item 14 (female).

5.5.2. No other patches, badges, or accoutrements will be worn on the BDUs.

★**5.5.3.** Socks worn with BDUs must be black. White socks are not authorized.

Figure 5.1. Cadet Officer Insignia on BDU Collar (example is C/Maj).



Figure 5.2. Cadet Airmen Insignia on BDU Collar (example is C/4C).

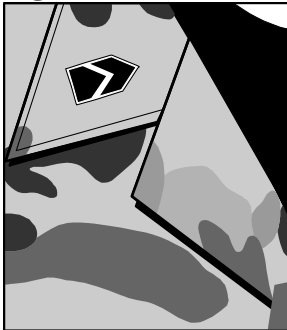


Table 5.1. When to Wear the Battle Dress Uniform (BDU).

Cadets:			
Wear	Do not wear	Optional (or as directed by Det Commander)	When:
		X	Participating in ROTC sanctioned recruiting-related functions.
X			Traveling on military aircraft or vehicles between military installations to participate in Professional Development Training, Field Training, or base visits.
	X		Eating lunch at a local establishment where people wear civilian business attire.
		X	Eating lunch at a local establishment where people wear comparable civilian attire.
		X	Making short convenience stops (including shopping malls).
	X		More than twice per month in place of Service Uniform

Note: The detachment commander is the final authority on the propriety of uniform combinations worn.

Chapter 6

FLIGHT DRESS UNIFORM (FDU) WEAR INSTRUCTIONS

6.1. Cadets Authorized Wear of FDUs.

6.1.1. Only the following cadets may be issued FDUs for regular wear:

6.1.1.1. Cadets categorized as pilots.

6.1.1.2. Cadets categorized as navigators.

6.1.1.3. Cadets categorized as Air Battle Manager (ABM).

6.1.2. Cadets designated as Space and Missile candidates are not authorized wear of FDUs.

6.2. Events Authorized for Wear of FDUs.

6.2.1. AFROTC Flight Orientation Program (FOP). If available in the inventory, FDUs may be worn by cadets participating in the AFROTC FOP during the duration of their flight only. FDUs must be issued immediately before and returned immediately after the training. Wear of the Aircrew Style Name Patch (ASNP) is not required for wear by cadets participating in AFROTC FOP when worn for single flights and returned to inventory. If FDUs are not available in the inventory, cadets will wear BDUs for AFROTC FOP participation. If cadets have not been issued BDUs and combat boots, the service uniform will be worn. Early issue of BDUs and combat boots is not authorized for AFROTC FOP participation.

6.2.2. Recruiting. If authorized by the detachment commander, cadets authorized wear of FDU in paragraph 6.1.1. above are authorized to wear FDUs for recruiting events. See paragraph 3.1.4. for further guidance on uniform wear during recruiting events. Membership on a “Recruiting Team” does not automatically authorize a cadet on-going wear of FDUs.

6.2.3. Professional Development Training (PDT). If available in the inventory, cadets may be issued FDUs for participation in Flight Awareness Summer Training (FAST), USAFA FreeFall, USAFA Soaring, and Operation Air Force selections to bases with fighter aircraft. FDUs must be returned immediately upon completion of training.

6.2.4. FDUs may not be worn for any other purpose unless approved by AFROTC/DO.

6.3. Configuration. The following instructions apply to wear of the FDU by AFROTC cadets:

6.3.1. FDUs will be configured with the ASNP. The ASNP will be configured as follows (text lines justified to the left and right):

Cadet Aeronautical Badge centered above name line

First line: “FIRST NAME MI LAST NAME” (No nicknames allowed)

Second line: “CADET AFROTC” (Justify CADET to the left and AFROTC to the right. See [Figures 6.1., 6.2., and 6.3.](#))

6.3.1.1. Cadets categorized as ABM will not wear an aeronautical badge. First and Second Lines will be centered on the patch. See Figure 6.3. for configuration.

6.3.1.2. Cadets authorized wear of the FDU and who have earned the Parachutist Badge (whether through the USAFA Freefall program, Army Airborne Training, or other prior service qualifications) may have them placed on their ASNP, centered between the Cadet Aeronautical Badge (if applicable) and above the name line. Cadets who wish to have this added to an existing patch must do so at their own expense. (See [Figures 6.1., 6.2., and 6.3.](#))

6.3.1.3. Cloth, colored ASNPs may be worn if approved by the detachment commander and purchased by the cadet. Cloth ASNPs will be configured exactly like leather ASNPs. No distinctive school markings are authorized. Cloth ASNPs will have two contrasting colors: one color for the background, and a contrasting color for the rim and embroidery. Colors used will be determined by the detachment commander and be consistent throughout the detachment for cadets wearing cloth ASNPs. Detachment commanders may not mandate that cloth ASNPs be worn, since the cloth ASNP is purchased at the cadet’s expense. (See [Figure 6.2.](#))

NOTE: Do not replace the ASNP solely because it does not meet the provisions of this paragraph, but ensure any new ASNP meet these requirements.

6.3.2. The AFROTC patch (cadet version with light blue background) will be worn on the right breast pocket of the FDU between the diagonal pocket zipper and the main zipper. The

U.S. Flag patch will be worn on the left shoulder. A detachment patch, if available, may be worn on the right shoulder. Cadets will not wear the Air Education and Training Command (AETC) patch.

★**6.3.2.1.** All patches must be attached to the flight suit by the use of velcro. Do not sew any patches on the flight suit.

6.3.2.2. No other patches, badges, or accoutrements will be worn on the FDU.

6.3.3. FDUs must be worn with authorized black combat boots.

6.3.4. Cadet rank insignia will not be worn on the FDU.

6.3.5. FDUs will not be worn unless all required patches and insignia are available. This includes the AFROTC patch, the U.S. Flag Patch, and the ASNP. *Exception:* Per paragraph [6.2.1.](#), the ASNP is not required for wear by cadets participating in AFROTC FOP when worn for single flights and returned to inventory.

6.4. Headgear.

6.4.1. Cadets will wear the diamond braided officer flight cap with appropriate insignia with the FDU. Flight cap will be stored in the lower cargo pocket on the left leg when not worn.

6.4.2. Detachment commanders may approve wear of the black “watch” cap with the FDU only while operating on a flight line during extremely cold or inclement weather if purchased by the cadet.

6.5. Additional Instructions.

6.5.1. Issue FDUs to authorized cadets (see paragraph [6.1.](#)) at the beginning of the AS 400 year, or immediately upon notification of categorization selection if currently enrolled in AS 400 or later.

6.5.2. Authorized cadets may wear FDUs in lieu of BDUs unless training requirements or the detachment commander dictate otherwise. Cadets will wear BDUs if FDUs are unavailable.

6.5.3. Requests for FDUs for authorized cadets must be made through the region to AFROTC/DOSL. Regions will attempt to meet FDU requirements from within the region whenever possible. Requests for new FDUs will be based only upon those authorized in paragraph [6.1.](#)

6.5.4. Non-AFROTC Provided FDUs. FDUs obtained from sources other than HQ AFROTC may only be worn if deemed in serviceable condition and of the appropriate style by the detachment commander. Once identified as such, FDUs will be counted in the inventory of detachment FDUs. Wear policy is the same as listed in paragraphs [6.1.](#) and [6.2.](#) above.

★**6.5.5. Scarves.** Detachment scarves are authorized. Color of scarves will be determined by the detachment commander and consistent with university colors.

6.5.6. When wearing FDUs, sleeves will be worn at full length (not pushed up). The FDU front zipper will be closed within approximately 3 inches of the neckline. All pockets will be zipped and all pocket items will remain concealed.

6.5.7. T-shirts worn will be IAW paragraphs [3.3.1.4](#) and [3.3.8](#).

6.7.8. AFROTC does not provide flight jackets for wear, therefore, there is no authorized jacket to be worn with the FDU. If weather is such that wear of the FDU without a jacket is not practicable, cadets should wear BDUs. **EXCEPTION:** If serviceable Air Force authorized nomex flight jackets are available in the detachment inventory from non-AFROTC sources, they may be issued to cadets for wear. Flight jackets will not be worn unless all required patches and insignia are available. This includes the AFROTC patch, the U.S. Flag Patch, and the ASNP (additional ASNPs must be purchased at the expense of the cadet). Do not use commutation or IIK funds to purchase flight jackets.

Figure 6.1. Aircrew Style Name Patch (ASNP) Configurations (Cloth, Example is Navigator).

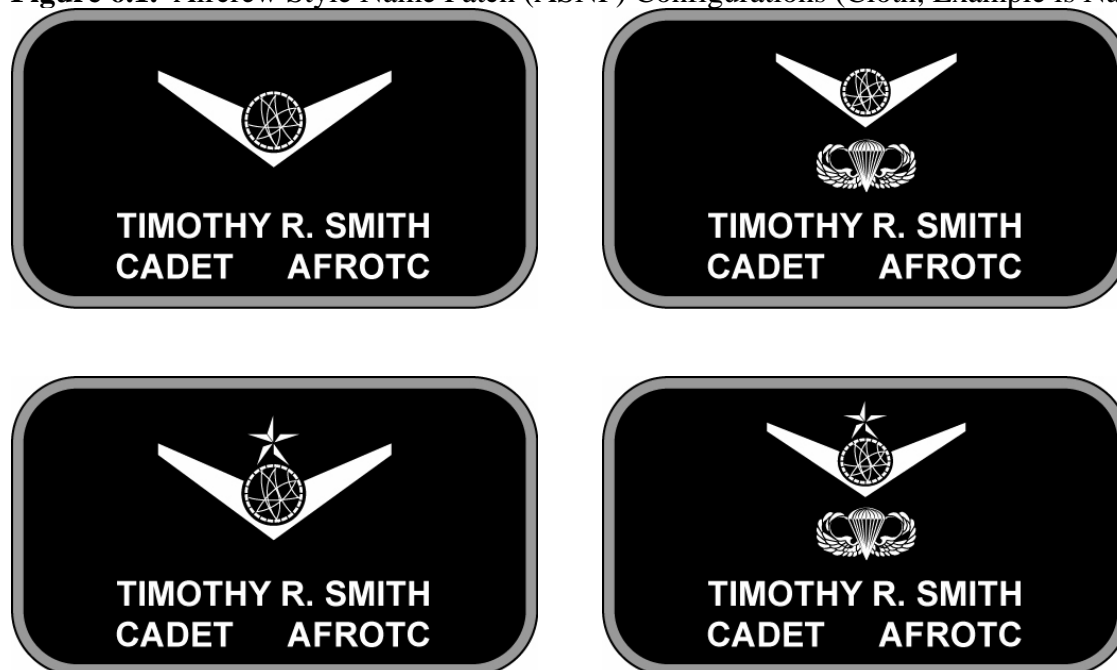
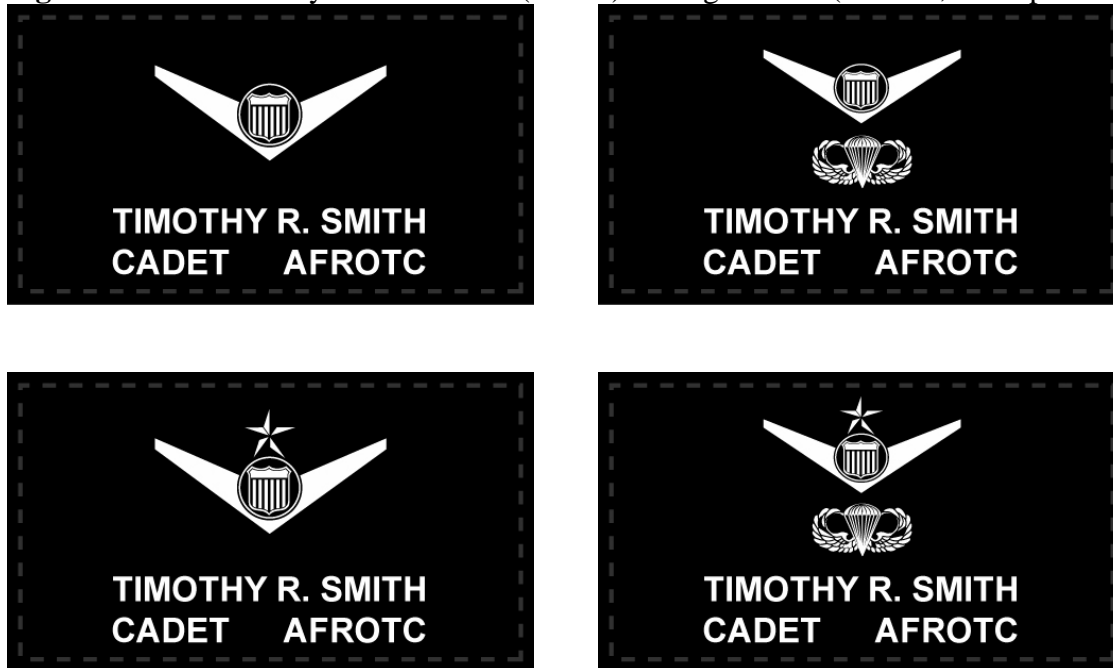


Figure 6.2. Aircrew Style Name Patch (ASNP) Configurations (Leather, Example is Pilot).**Figure 6.3.** Aircrew Style Name Patch (ASNP) for ABM Cadets (Cloth and Leather).

Chapter 7

PHYSICAL TRAINING UNIFORM (PTU) WEAR INSTRUCTIONS

7.1. Issue Authorization. The AFROTC PTU is purchased by each AFROTC detachment with commutation (see AFOATSI 65-102) or IIK funds.

7.1.1. Initial Issue. 1 sweat suit, 2 T-shirts, and 2 shorts will be issued to each cadet at the beginning of the first year in the AFROTC program.

7.1.2. FT Issue. An additional issue of 1 sweat suit, 2 T-shirts, and 2 shorts will be issued to each cadet as part of the cadet's FT issue during the semester immediately prior to attendance at FT.

7.2. Events Authorized for Wear of PTUs. PTUs may only be worn during LLAB activities, physical training (PT), or other physical activities specifically designated by the detachment commander, to include individual PT.

7.3. Additional Instructions.

7.3.1. The PTU may not be altered in any way.

7.3.2. The AFROTC PTU is a uniform combination and will be treated as such.

7.3.2.1. Proper grooming standards will be adhered to when wearing the PTU.

7.3.2.2. Proper customs and courtesies will be practiced whenever possible when wearing the PTU. This includes saluting those personnel recognized to be higher rank when outside, or reporting, regardless of whether or not headgear is worn.

7.3.2.3. The minimum PTU combination is the T-shirt and shorts with white socks, athletic shoes, and appropriate undergarments. The sweat shirt and sweat pants may be added to this combination at the discretion of the detachment commander. The sweat shirt and sweat pants may be worn together or separately with the T-shirt and shorts. Detachment cadre are encouraged to publish the PTU combination to be worn at PT activities and/or formations.

NOTE: The sweat shirt will not be worn without the T-shirt underneath. The shorts will not be worn without appropriate undergarments. The sweat pants will not be worn without the shorts underneath.

7.3.3. Detachment commanders may establish local policy on the wear of reflective wrist, arm, or waist bands with the PTU.

★7.3.4. Headgear. Detachment commanders may approve local wear of black "watch" caps with the PTU during cold or inclement weather if purchased by the cadet. Detachment ball

caps designed IAW paragraph 5.3.2. may not be worn with the PTU. The BDU cap will not be worn with the PTU.

7.3.5. Detachment commanders may authorize wear of the BDU field jacket and other cold weather items, such as gloves or scarves, with the PTU in exceptionally cold or inclement weather.

7.3.6. PTU items will not be worn as civilian attire and will not be worn to university classes unless specifically authorized by the detachment commander.

Chapter 8

COLOR GUARD, HONOR GUARD, AND DRILL TEAM UNIFORM WEAR INSTRUCTIONS

8.1. Definitions. In order to ensure all detachments have the same understanding of what constitutes these organizations, the following definitions are provided.

8.1.1. Color Guard. Color Guards are small (typically 3-8 person) teams that form to carry the flags/colors and present them at such activities as sporting events, parades, and other formal ceremonies, such as military balls. These teams may also participate in Color Guard competitions at drill meets.

8.1.2. Honor Guard. Honor Guards are small (typically 3-8 person) teams that are very similar to Color Guards, except they may or may not carry flags. They are formed to honor something or someone, such as at funerals, veterans' ceremonies, etc. This may include flag raising/lowering details.

8.1.3. Drill Team. Drill Teams are normally larger teams (though sometimes as small as a color/honor guard) that do not carry flags, except possibly a flight guidon. They may drill with or without weapons. They are formed to perform for events such as parades or exhibitions, or to compete in Drill Team competitions at drill meets.

8.2. Cadets and Events Authorized for Uniform Wear. Cadets participating in detachment sanctioned Color Guards, Honor Guards, and Drill Teams may wear their uniforms while preparing for, performing, or coming from performing Color/Honor Guard or Drill Team duties. Military institutions retain the same exception to uniform wear as in paragraph 3.1.5.

8.3. Additional Instructions.

8.3.1. Color/Honor Guard members and Drill Team members will wear the following items as part of the Color/Honor Guard and Drill Team uniform. If funding is available, purchase the following special items using commutation funds (see AFOATSI 65-102) or IIK funds. Detachments are not specifically funded for Color/Honor Guards or Drill Teams. Funding must come from available commutation or IIK funds, personal expense, or other legal

sources of funding. See AFOATSI 65-102 for guidance on commutation funds. IIK units must request approval from AFROTC/DOS prior to purchasing new uniform items under this paragraph. Variations to this uniform are not authorized unless approved by AFROTC/DOS. Color/Honor Guard and Drill Team uniforms will consist of the following:

8.3.1.1. The service dress uniform is worn by all members of the Color/Honor Guard or Drill Team.

8.3.1.2. USAF ceremonial service (wheel) cap with silver rimmed visor, silver front chin strap, and black rear chin strap. Wear the USAF Honor Guard “Wing and Star” service cap insignia.

8.3.1.3. Single strand white shoulder cord.

8.3.1.4. USAF ceremonial web belt (blue with silver trim) with chrome buckle emblazoned with “Wing and Star” insignia.

8.3.1.5. White gloves. (Detachments may purchase white gloves with grip face for better hold of weapons and flags.)

8.3.1.6. Purchase white flag holders as needed.

8.3.1.7. No ascots, berets, or any other item not specified in this paragraph will be worn.

8.3.1.8. Female cadets participating in Color/Honor Guards or Drill Teams will wear the male service cap.

8.3.1.9. If desired, Drill Teams may alter the service dress uniform to remove ribbons and badges to present a standardized appearance by all drill team members during competition. All other insignia must be worn. Color/Honor Guards will not alter the uniform in this manner.

8.3.2. Color/Honor Guard uniform items will be issued out on AF Form 538, **Personal Clothing and Equipment Record**, to the individual cadet and should be turned in when the cadet no longer participates as an active member of the Color/Honor Guard or Drill Team.

Chapter 9

HOSPITAL WHITE UNIFORM WEAR INSTRUCTIONS

9.1. Cadets Authorized Wear of Hospital White Uniform. Nursing and Pre-Health cadet officers may wear the hospital white uniform in lieu of BDUs if purchased at their own expense and if BDUs are not required for training. (See AFI 36-2903, Figures 2.9. and 2.27.)

9.2. Configuration.

9.2.1. Wear metallic rank insignia in the same location as on the BDUs (see paragraph [5.2.2.](#)).

9.2.2. Wear the blue nametag and cadet Pre-Health or Nurse Badge in the same location as on the service uniform (see paragraph [10.6.1.](#) and [Figure 10.9.](#)).

9.3. Headgear. Cadets will wear the diamond braided officer flight cap with appropriate insignia with the hospital white uniform.

9.4. Additional Instructions. Authorized cadets may wear the hospital white uniform in lieu of BDUs unless training requirements or the detachment commander dictate otherwise.

Chapter 10

INSIGNIA, BADGES, AND OTHER ACCOUTREMENTS

10.1. Insignia and Badges. All insignia and badges worn will be chrome-like finish. Comply with phase out instructions in paragraph [2.2.3.](#) Criteria for AFROTC insignia and badges, including instructions for wear are described below.

10.2. Rank Insignia. Insignia will be cloth shoulder marks ([Figure 10.1](#)) and metallic rank ([Figure 10.2](#)).

10.2.1. Cloth shoulder marks will be used on the epaulets of the service dress jacket, long- and short-sleeved shirts/blouses, and the pullover or cardigan sweater. The epaulets are inserted into the cloth shoulder marks and buttoned. The bottom edge of the cloth shoulder mark must be as close as possible to the upper seam of the sleeve.

10.2.2. Metallic rank is worn on the BDU, BDU field jacket, lightweight blue jacket, all-weather coat, and Hospital White Uniform.

10.2.2.1. Instructions on how to wear rank on the BDU can be found in the BDU Wear section (paragraphs [5.2.2.](#) and [5.2.3.](#)).

10.2.2.2 Instructions on how to wear rank on the Hospital White uniform can be found in the Hospital White Uniform Wear section (paragraph [9.2.1.](#)).

10.2.3. Cadets will wear metallic rank insignia on the epaulets of all outerwear, excluding the parka. Rank should be centered on both epaulets 5/8ths-inch from the shoulder seam with the point of the insignia toward the neck. Cadet officers will wear metallic black and silver cadet officer rank insignia with the silver stripes parallel to the shoulder seam. (See [Figure 10.3.](#)) Cadet airmen will wear metallic blue and silver rank insignia with the point toward the neck.

10.2.4. Cadet Training Assistants (CTAs) will wear Cadet Colonel rank insignia while at FT IAW AFROTCI 36-2010.

10.3. U.S. Lapel Insignia. All cadets will wear the chrome-like finish U.S. lapel insignia on the service dress jacket. Center insignia halfway up the seam, resting on, but not over it. Both insignia should form an imaginary straight line parallel to the ground. U.S. insignia is not worn on any other uniform combination. (See [Figure 10.4](#)).

10.4. Headgear Insignia.

10.4.1. Flight Cap Insignia.

10.4.1.1. Cadet airmen (C/4C and C/3C) will not wear insignia on the flight cap.

10.4.1.2. Cadet officers will wear the “Prop & Wings” cap insignia ([Figure 10.5](#).) on the left side of the flight cap, vertically centered, with the front edge of the wings 1-1/2 inches from the front of the flight cap ([Figure 10.6](#)).

★**10.4.1.3.** Cadet officers are authorized to wear gold/silver combination “Prop & Wings” (gold wings and silver propeller) if a relative was a member of the Army Air Corps, if a parent has at least 20 years of military service, if a parent died in the line of duty, or if a parent participated in active combat as a member of any U.S. military service. Vanguard Part # 3680101

10.4.2. BDU Cap Insignia. Cadets will not wear insignia on the BDU cap.

10.5. Cadet Aeronautical and Specialty Badges.

10.5.1. Cadet Pilot Badge. There are two versions of the cadet pilot badge authorized for wear with the cadet uniform (See [Figure 10.7](#)).

10.5.1.1. Cadets who meet one of the following criteria are authorized to wear the Cadet Pilot Badge:

10.5.1.1.1. Flown solo through private means, CAP, FAST, or another solo flight program. Documentation must be provided to detachment cadre to prove solo qualification.

10.5.1.1.2. Successfully flown solo in a glider through USAFA SOAR program.

10.5.1.1.3. Categorized as pilot.

10.5.1.2. Cadets who meet two or more of the criteria listed above are authorized to wear the Cadet Senior Pilot Badge (pilot wings with a star).

10.5.1.3. Cadets will not wear cadet pilot wings with a star and wreath.

10.5.2. Cadet Navigator Badge. Cadets who are categorized as navigators will wear the Cadet Navigator Badge or Cadet Senior Navigator Badge as appropriate. (See [Figure 10.8.](#))

10.5.2.1. If a cadet has previously earned the Cadet Pilot Badge (solo flight or USAFA SOAR) and is categorized as navigator, wear the Cadet Senior Navigator Badge in lieu of the Cadet Senior Pilot Badge. (Essentially, the navigator symbol replaces the pilot symbol and the badge is upgraded.)

10.5.2.2. Cadets will not wear cadet navigator wings with a star and wreath.

10.5.3. Medical Insignia. Cadets wear the appropriate badge upon receiving an allocation in the Nurse or Pre-Health category. (See [Figure 10.9](#))

10.5.4. Cadet Aeronautical Badges and Cadet Medical Badges will be worn ½ inch above the left breast pocket or ribbons on the service uniform and ½ inch above the medals on the mess dress uniform. Cadet aeronautical badges are mandatory for wear on all service uniform combinations and take precedence over all other badges.

10.5.5. Cadet Training Assistant (CTA) Badge. Wear the CTA badge (See [Figure 10.10.](#)) upon successful completion of CTA duties. On the service dress jacket, wear the CTA badge on the right breast, centered ½ inch above the service dress nametag. If worn with the Arnold Air Society (AAS) Pin, place the AAS pin ½ inch above the CTA badge. On the long- or short-sleeved shirt/blouse, wear the CTA badge centered and ½ inch above the blue nametag (See [Figures 10.14.](#), [10.15.](#), [10.17.](#), [10.19.](#), [10.21.](#), and [10.23.](#)).

10.5.6. Parachutist Badge. This is the same badge worn by active duty personnel, and will be worn IAW AFI 36-2903 (see [Figures 10.11.](#), [10.14.](#), and [10.16. – 10.19.](#)). Wear the parachutist badge ½ inch below cadet aeronautical badges and ½ inch above all other badges and ribbons. The parachutist badge will not be worn on the BDUs.

10.5.7. AFROTC cadets are authorized to wear only those badges and insignia earned as members of the AFROTC program, except for the Parachutist Badge (which may be worn if earned while on active or reserve duty prior to enrollment in AFROTC), or under provisions of paragraph [10.7.7.](#) and AFROTCI 36-2020.

10.6. Nametags, Nametapes, and Aircrew Style Name Patches.

10.6.1. Service Uniform Nametag. The blue plastic nametag is worn on the long- or short-sleeved shirt/blouse on the wearer's right. Males wear centered above and resting on the right breast pocket. Females wear centered on right side even with or up to 1½ inches higher or lower than the first exposed button (see [Figures 10.17.](#) and [10.19.](#)).

10.6.2. Silver Service Dress Uniform Nametag. One silver service dress nametag will be issued to each cadet officer in conjunction with the "Prop & Wings" flight cap insignia issue upon satisfactory completion of FT and entrance into the POC. The nametag is worn centered on the wearer's right side of the service dress jacket with the bottom of the nametag

level with the bottom of the ribbons. Cadet officers also wear the silver nametag on the pullover sweater centered on the wearer's right. Cadet airmen will not wear the silver nametag on either the service dress or the pullover sweater (see [Figures 10.16 – 10.19.](#)).

10.6.3. BDU Nametape and U.S. Air Force Tape. BDU nametapes will be sewn on and centered over the right breast pocket of the BDU shirt. The U.S. Air Force tape will be sewn on and centered over the left breast pocket. Tapes will be sewn on flush with the top edge and extend to the outer edges of pockets.

10.6.4. FDUs will be configured with the Aircrew Style Name Patch (ASNP) for wear on the FDU. See paragraph [6.3.](#) and [Figures 6.1., 6.2., and 6.3.](#) for ASNP configuration.

10.7. Wear of Awards and Decorations. AFROTCI 36-2020, *Cadet Awards and Decorations Program*, is the authoritative instruction on ribbons, badges, and other awards.

10.7.1. Shirts/Blouses. Unless otherwise directed by the detachment commander, ribbons are optional on shirts/blouses.

10.7.1.1. Male Shirts. If worn, ribbons will be centered on and flush on the top edge of the left breast pocket (See [Figure 10.14.](#)).

10.7.1.2. Female Blouses. If worn, ribbons will be centered on the left side of the blouse, parallel to the ground. Align the bottom the ribbons with the bottom of the nametag. For further instruction, refer to AFI 36-2903. (See [Figure 10.15.](#))

10.7.2. Male and Female Service Dress Jackets. Ribbons and badges are mandatory for wear on the service dress jacket. Ribbons will be worn centered on and flush with the top edge of the welt pocket (See [Figures 10.16. - 10.19.](#)).

10.7.3. If ribbons are worn, whether on the service dress jacket or shirt/blouse, cadets must wear all of the ribbons they have earned.

10.7.4. Staggering of ribbons with 3 or 4 to a row is authorized when necessary to avoid unprofessional appearance. Refer to AFI 36-2903, Figure 4.3. and Table 4.2. for further guidance.

10.7.5. Refer to AFROTCI 36-2020 for ribbon award criteria. See AFROTCVA 36-3 for precedence.

10.7.6. See AFROTCI 36-2020, Attachment 5 for instruction on the use of ribbon devices.

10.7.7. See AFROTCI 36-2020 for wear authorization for specific active duty awards and awards from other organizations.

10.8. Shoulder Cords. Wear shoulder cords on the left shoulder of the service uniform. Only one shoulder cord may be worn at a time. Shoulder cords should be worn grounded to the upper

seam of the sleeve. When this is not practical, they may be worn attached to the button of the epaulet (See [Figures 10.14. - 10.19.](#)).

10.8.1. Shoulder cords authorized for wear are:

10.8.1.1. Arnold Air Society (AAS) or Silver Wings (SW).

10.8.1.2. Color/Honor Guard and Drill Team members may wear a white shoulder cord.

10.8.1.3. Scabbard and Blade.

10.8.1.4. Pershing Rifles shoulder cord may only be worn while participating in Pershing Rifles activities.

10.8.2. No other shoulder cords are authorized for wear.

10.9. Organizational Uniform Items.

10.9.1. No items from other activities, groups, or organizations may be worn on the cadet uniform, unless specifically authorized by other AFROTC Instructions, or a waiver request is approved by AFROTC/DOS IAW the provisions of paragraph [2.3.](#) of this instruction.

10.9.2. Air Force and Non-Air Force Sponsored Military Activities. Shoulder cords, rank shields, and other insignia denoting membership or office in other military activities, such as Arnold Air Society, Silver Wings, Pershing Rifles, and Scabbard and Blade, may be worn whenever the service uniform, semi-formal uniform, or mess dress uniform is worn. Ribbons, if authorized by AFROTCI 36-2020, may be worn whenever the service uniform or semi-formal uniforms are worn. Wear of items denoting membership in student military activities and organizations must comply with the following requirements:

10.9.2.1. Arnold Air Society (AAS) and Silver Wings (SW). Cadets who are members of AAS/SW are authorized to wear the appropriate shoulder cord on the service uniform. AAS members may wear the membership rank or candidate pin on the service uniform and mess dress uniform (rank pin takes the place of the candidate pin). AAS pin ([Figure 10.12.](#)) is worn centered ½ inch above the nameplate or CTA badge on the shirt and service dress jacket. For cadet airmen wearing the AAS pin on the service dress jacket, it is worn centered on the right ½ inch above a line drawn from the bottom of the ribbons. The SW pin is not authorized for wear on the cadet uniform. AAS/SW ribbons authorized for wear are listed in precedence in AFROTCI 36-2020, and on the AFROTC Ribbon Chart (AFROTCVA 36-3). (See [Figures 10.14. - 10.19.](#))

10.9.2.2. Pershing Rifles. Cadets who are members of Pershing Rifles may wear certain Pershing Rifles uniform items, including the Pershing Rifles Rank Shield ([Figure 10.14.](#)).

10.9.2.2.1. Male cadets wear the Pershing Rifles Rank Shield centered on the left breast pocket of the service uniform. Wear 1½ inches below the top of the welt pocket on the service dress jacket, and 1½ inches below the bottom of the medals on

the mess dress uniform. Center Pershing Rifles Rank Shield on the ribbons or medals (See [Figures 10.14.](#), [10.16.](#), [10.17.](#), and [10.21.](#)).

10.9.2.2.2. Female cadets wear the Pershing Rifles Rank Shield centered ½ inch above the ribbons on the service uniform and ½ inch above the medals on the mess dress uniform. Wear 1½ inches below the top of the welt pocket on the service dress jacket. Center Pershing Rifles Rank Shield on the ribbons or medals (See [Figures 10.15.](#), [10.18.](#), [10.19.](#), and [10.23.](#)).

10.9.2.2.3. Cadets are authorized to wear the appropriate shoulder cord on the service uniform or service dress uniform only when participating in Pershing Rifles activities. The Pershing Rifle shoulder cord is not authorized for wear except as authorized in paragraph [10.8.1.4.](#)

10.9.2.2.4. Pershing Rifle cadets may wear Pershing Rifle insignia on the BDU while participating in Pershing Rifle activities. The Pershing Rifle Membership Ribbon may be worn on the AFROTC cadet uniform in precedence according to AFROTCI 36-2020 and AFROTCVA 36-3.

10.9.2.3. Scabbard and Blade. Cadets who are members of Scabbard and Blade are authorized to wear the appropriate shoulder cord on the service uniform. Cadets are authorized to wear the Scabbard and Blade Membership or Rank ribbon (rank ribbon takes the place of the membership ribbon) in precedence as listed in AFROTCI 36-2020 and AFROTCVA 36-3.

10.10. Insignia and Badges on the Mess Dress Uniform. Certain accoutrements are authorized on the cadet mess dress uniform. Authorized cadet badges and medals will be worn in the following manner:

10.10.1. Cadet aeronautical badges (wings) are mandatory. Others are optional. Center aeronautical and medical badges ½ inch above the top row of medals, or when not authorized medals, midway between shoulder and top button. If authorized both, aeronautical badges are worn above medical. No more than two badges may be worn above the medals.

10.10.2. Members may only wear medals earned as members of AFROTC, and medals for valor or gallantry earned on active duty, in Civil Air Patrol (CAP), and in any service's ROTC or JROTC program. Center medals horizontally midway between lapel and arm seam and vertically between the shoulder and top button. Mixing of large size and miniature medals is not authorized. In rare cases, a cadet may have to choose which medal to wear due to size inconsistency. Most AFROTC medals are only available in large size. Questions of precedence or other wear questions not answered in this instruction should be addressed through command channels to AFROTC/DOS (See [Figures 10.20. – 10.23.](#)).

10.10.3. Arnold Air Society (AAS) members may wear the AAS rank or membership pin on the mess dress uniform. It is worn on the wearer's right ½ inch above an imaginary line drawn from the top of the medals. If worn with the CTA badge, it is worn ½ inch above the CTA badge. (See [Figures 10.20. – 10.23.](#)).

10.10.4. Cadets who have served satisfactorily as a CTA (see paragraph 10.5.5.) may wear the CTA badge on the mess dress uniform. It is worn on the wearer's right ½ inch above an imaginary line drawn from the top of the medals. (See Figures 10.21. and 10.23.)

10.10.5. Refer to AFI 36-2903 for further guidance on wear of badges and medals on the mess dress.

10.11. Forms/Information Management Tools (IMT). The following forms/IMTs are adopted: AF Form 538, **Personal Clothing and Equipment Record**; AFROTC IMT 2, **Field Training Uniform and Equipment Checklist**; AFROTC IMT 16, **Cadet Counseling Record**.

Figure 10.1. Cloth Shoulder Marks.

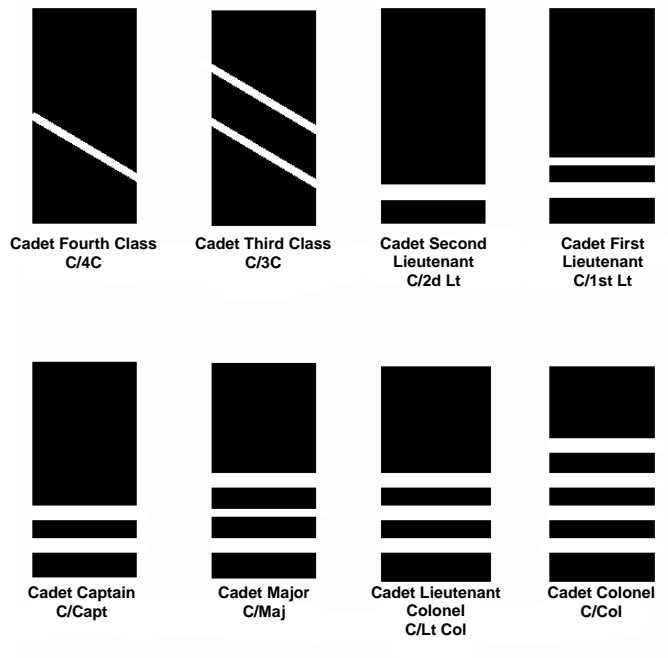


Figure 10.2. Metallic Rank Insignia.

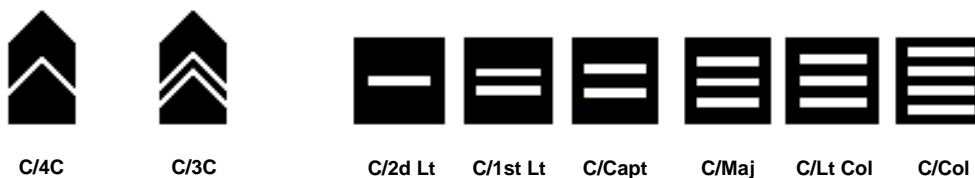


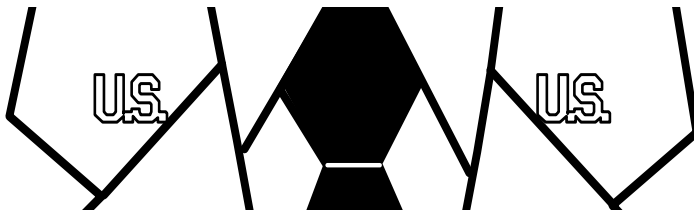
Figure 10.3. Epaulet with C/ Officer Rank (Outerwear).**Figure 10.4.** U.S. Lapel Insignia on Collar.**Figure 10.5.** "Prop & Wings" Cap Insignia.**Figure 10.6.** "Prop & Wings" Insignia on Male and Female Flight Caps.

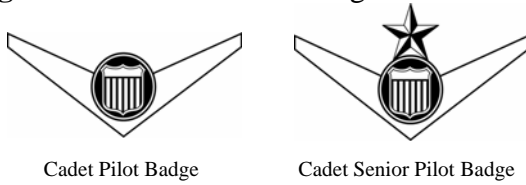
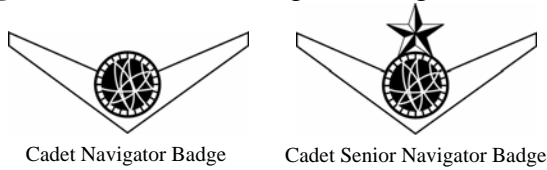
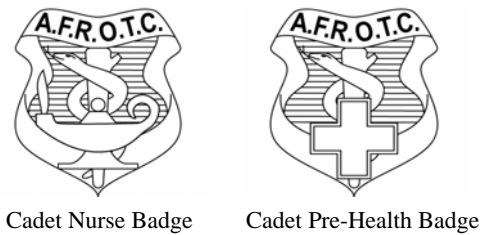
Figure 10.7. Cadet Pilot Badges.**Figure 10.8.** Cadet Navigator Badges.**Figure 10.9.** Cadet Medical Badges.**Figure 10.10.** Cadet Training Assistant (CTA) Badge.**Figure 10.11.** Parachutist Badge.

Figure 10.12. Arnold Air Society Pins (Example is AAS C/2d Lt).

AAS Rank Pin



AAS Candidate Pin

Figure 10.13. Pershing Rifles Rank Shield (examples are Pershing Rifles C/Col and C/1SG).

Cadet Officer



Cadet Enlisted

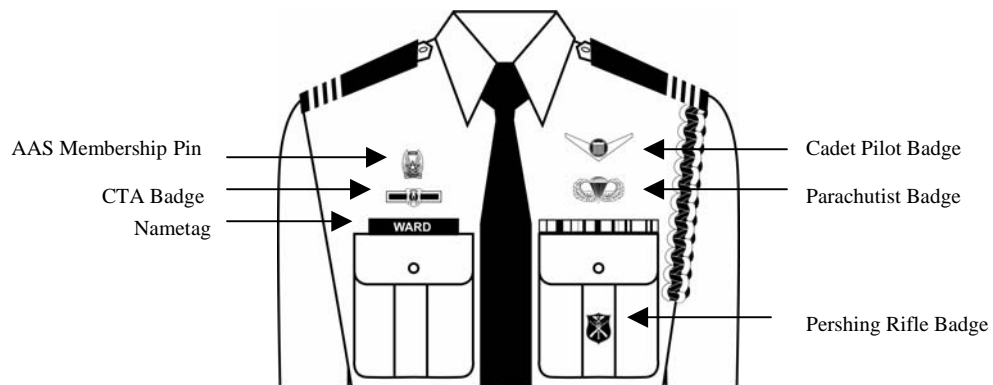
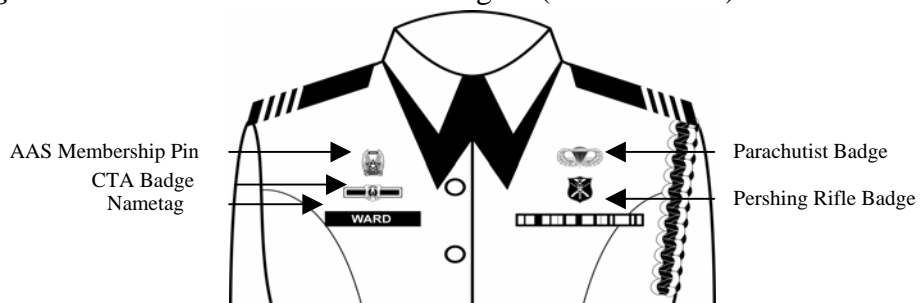
Figure 10.14. Male Shirt With Insignia (Cadet Officer).**Figure 10.15.** Female Blouse With Insignia (Cadet Officer).

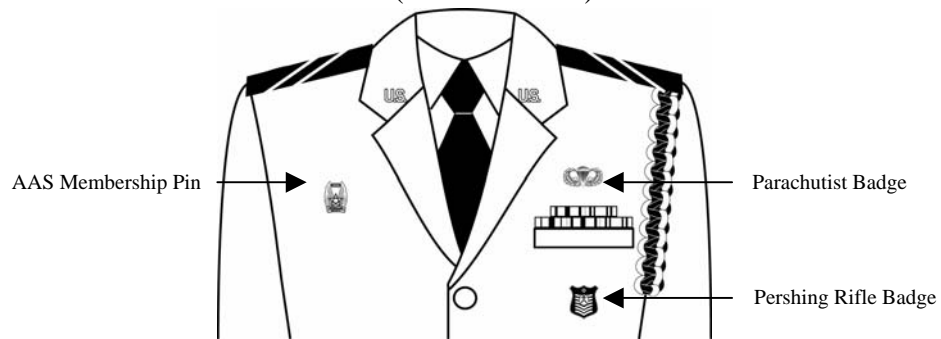
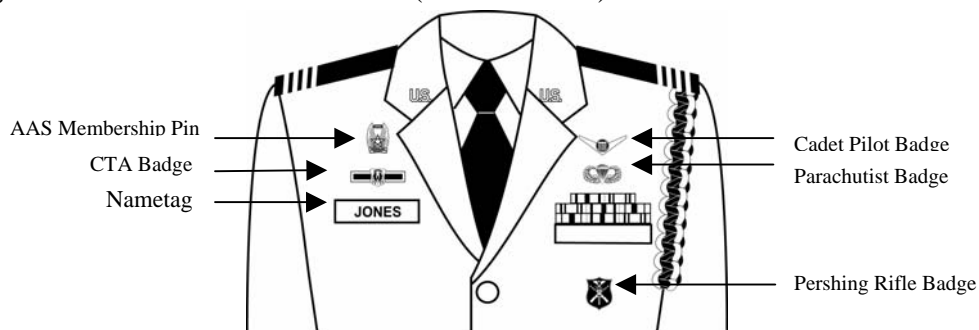
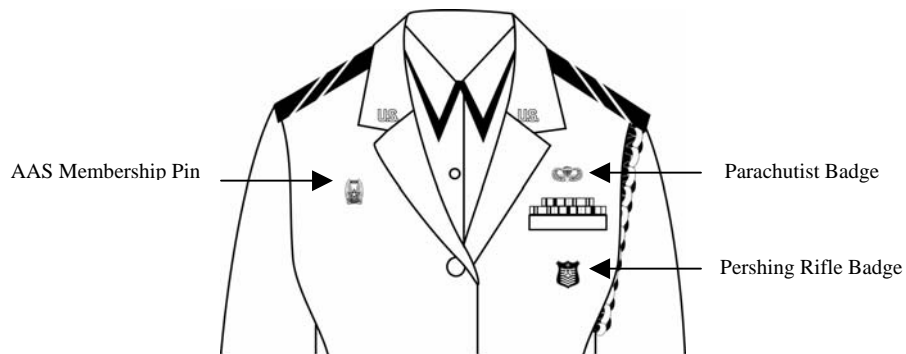
Figure 10.16. Male Service Dress (Cadet Airman).**Figure 10.17.** Male Service Dress (Cadet Officer).**Figure 10.18.** Female Service Dress (Cadet Airman).

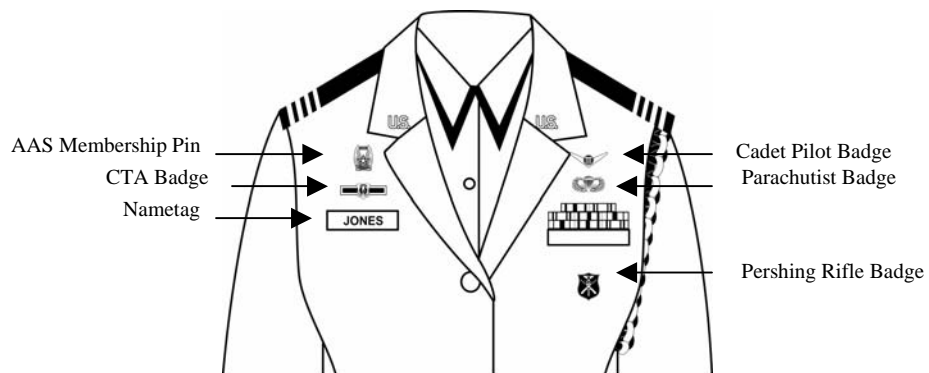
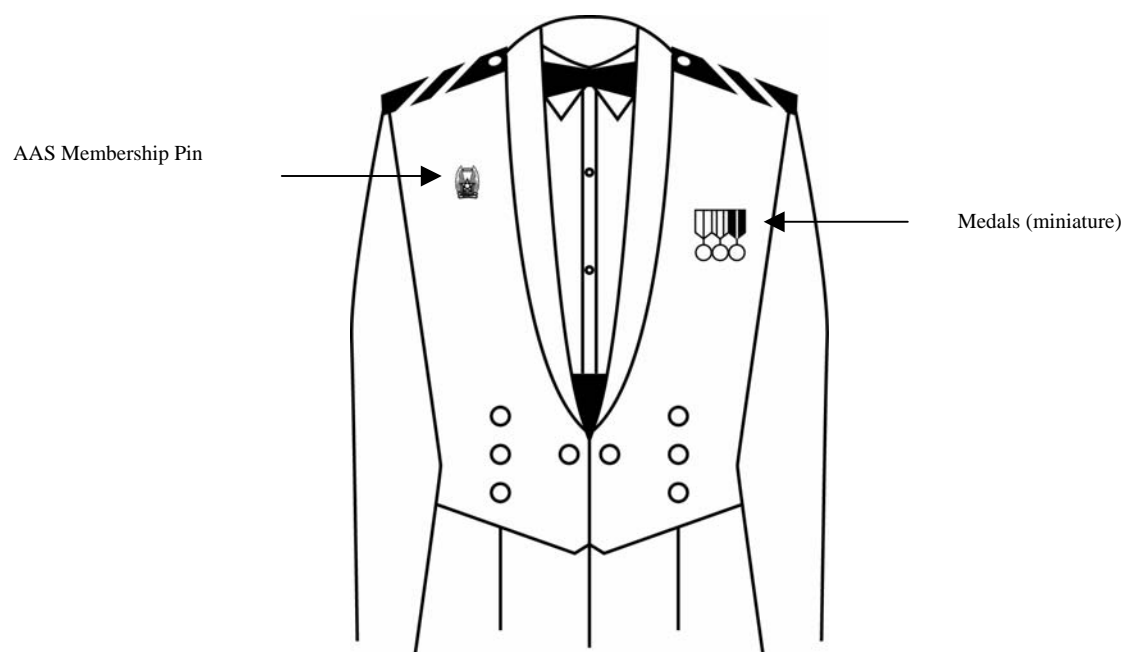
Figure 10.19. Female Service Dress (Cadet Officer).**Figure 10.20.** Male Mess Dress Uniform (Cadet Airman).

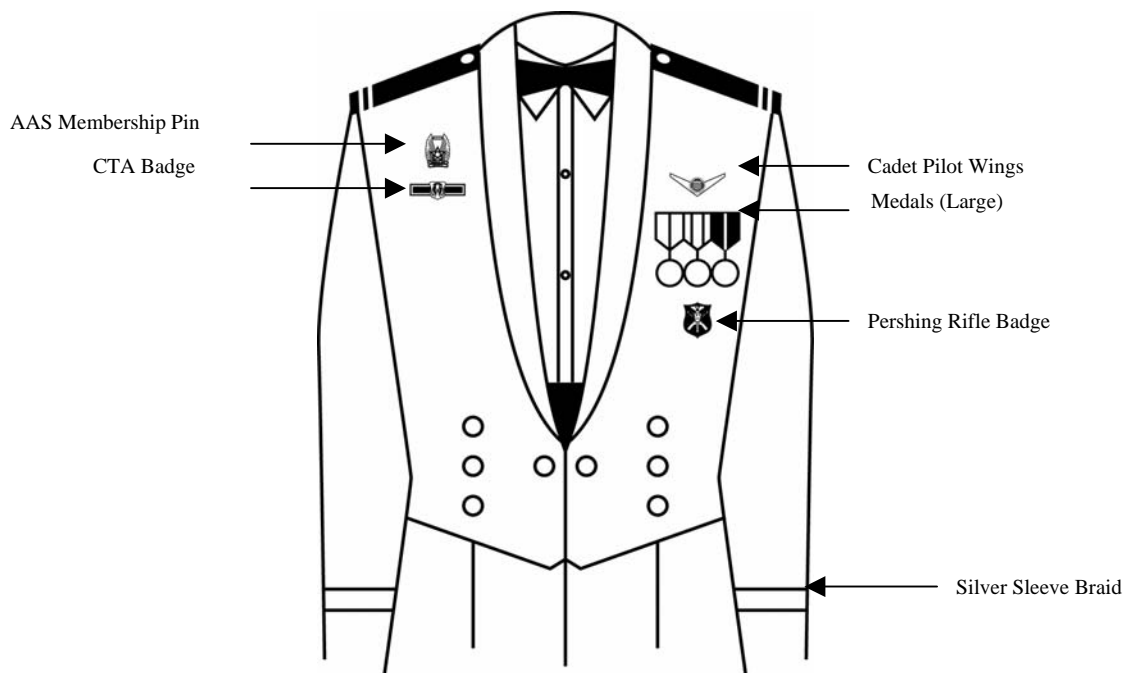
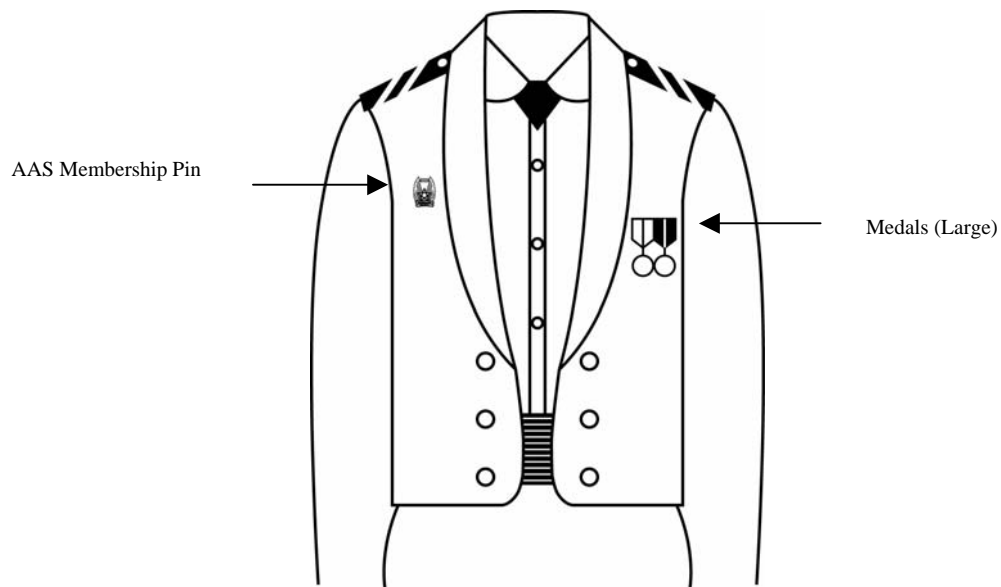
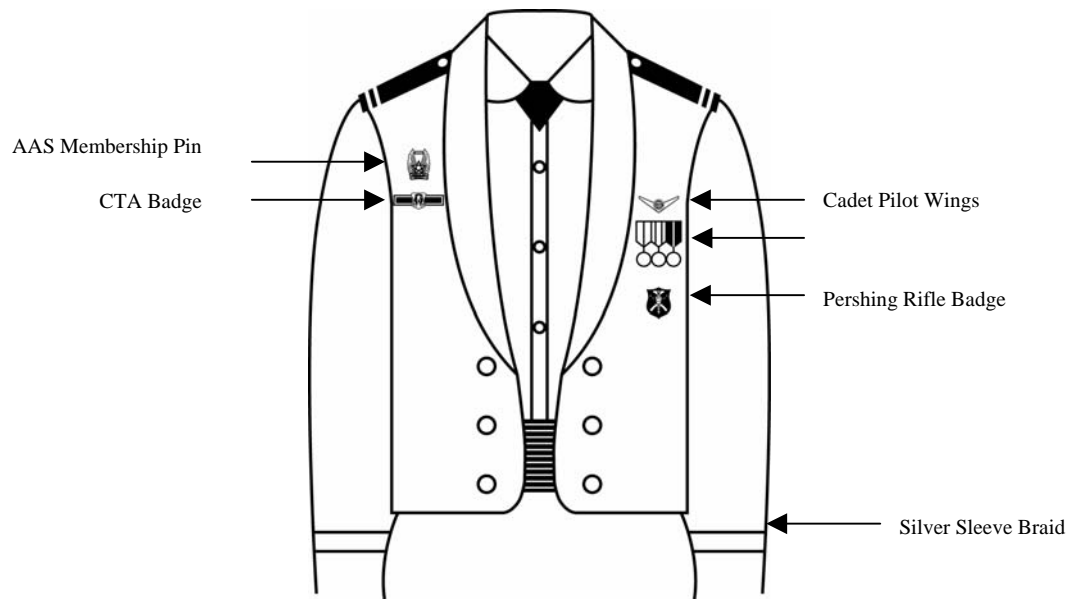
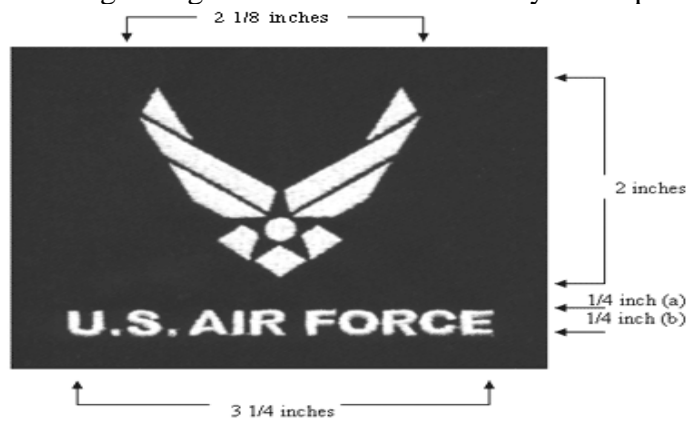
Figure 10.21. Male Mess Dress Uniform (Cadet Officer).**Figure 10.22.** Female Mess Dress Uniform (Cadet Airman).

Figure 10.23. Female Mess Dress Uniform (Cadet Officer).**★Figure 10.24.** Lightweight Blue Jacket Embroidery Size Specifications

★Figure 10.25. Lightweight Blue Jacket Embroidery Placement



STEVEN E. WAYNE, Colonel, USAF
Commander, Air Force ROTC

Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

AFI 36-2903, *Dress and Appearance of Air Force Personnel*
AETC SUP 1 to AFI 36-2903
AFOATSI 65-102, *The Air Force ROTC Uniform Commutation Program*
AFROTCI 23-1001, *Air Force ROTC Logistics Procedures*
AFROTCI 36-2010, *AFROTC Field Training Program*
AFROTCI 36-2011, *Administration of Senior Air Force ROTC Cadets*
AFROTCI 36-2017, *AFROTC College Program*
AFROTCI 36-2020, *AFROTC Cadet Awards and Decorations Program*
AFROTCMAN 36-203, *Field Training Manual*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AAS – Arnold Air Society
AETC – Air Education and Training Command
AFI - Air Force Instruction
AFOATS – Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools
AFOATSI – Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools Instruction
AFROTC – Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps
AFROTCI – Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Instruction
ASNP – Aircrew Style Name Patch
BDU – Battle Dress Uniform
CAP – Civil Air Patrol
CTA – Cadet Training Assistant
FDU – Flight Dress Uniform
FOP – Flight Orientation Program
FT – Field Training
IAW – In Accordance With
IIK – Issue-in-Kind
IMT – Information Management Tool
LLAB – Leadership Laboratory
PDT – Professional Development Training
PMT – Professional Military Training
POC – Professional Officer Course
PT – Physical Training
PTU – Physical Training Uniform
SW – Silver Wings

Attachment 2**IC 2004-1 to AFROTCI 36-2008, *AFROTC Cadet Uniforms and Insignia***

25 August 2004

★SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

★This change incorporates IC 2004-1 (Attachment 2); updates procedures for recommending changes to cadet uniforms, insignia, awards, and logistical procedures (2.1.2.); updates Tables 3.2. and 3.3; allows wear of Rigger belt with BDUs (3.3.1.8.); allows wear of lightweight blue jacket indoors (3.3.5.); allows addition of USAF logo to lightweight blue jacket and provides instructions on embroidery (3.3.5.1. – 3.3.5.2.); adds instruction on wear of all-weather coat when indoors (3.3.6.); makes white v-neck T-shirt with service uniform optional for females (3.3.8.1.); changes requirements for book bags and book bag wear (3.5.2.); authorizes black cell phone, pager, and beeper (3.5.3.); clarifies instructions on wear of sunglasses and authorized conservative ornamentation (3.5.5.); updates guidance on bracelets and watches (3.5.6.2.); adds guidance on military creases (3.5.7.); adds guidance for Hands in Pockets (3.5.8.); allows black spherical earrings for females (3.5.6.4.2.); adds instructions on male haircuts (3.6.1.1.); allows black hair pins with all hair colors (3.6.2.1.); revises instructions on book bag wear for injured cadets (3.7.2.); deletes 3.7.2.1. and 3.7.2.2; mandates black socks with BDUs (5.5.3.); corrects fastening of patches on FDU (6.3.2.1.); authorizes scarves with the FDU (6.5.5.); clarifies wear of headgear with the PTU (7.3.2.); adds authorization of Gold/Silver combination “Prop & Wings” for specific cadets (10.4.1.3.); and adds Figures 10.24. and 10.25. A star (★) indicates changed information from the previous version.

★2.1.2. Recommending Changes. Make recommendations for changes to AFROTC cadet uniforms, insignia, awards (see AFROTCI 36-2020, *AFROTC Cadet Awards and Decorations Program*), and logistical procedures with indorsements through detachment and region chains of command to AFROTC/DOS.

★3.3.1.8. Authorizes Rigger belts to be worn with BDUs by cadet officers. (See 3.3.1. listing items authorized for wear only by cadet officers.)

★3.3.5. Lightweight Blue Jacket. Cadets are authorized to wear the lightweight blue jacket IAW AFI 36-2903. If not issued by the detachment, cadets may purchase for wear. When worn, jackets must be zipped up at least halfway. Jackets are not authorized for wear when the service dress uniform is designated or more appropriate. Wear over the pullover sweater is authorized; however, sweater must not be exposed. Jackets may be worn with or without the insulated liner. Jackets are authorized to be worn indoors. Wear metallic rank insignia on the epaulets as described in paragraph 10.2.3. and Figure 10.3.

★3.3.5.1. USAF Logo. AS 400 cadets and extended cadets are authorized to wear the embroidered USAF logo on the lightweight blue jacket. Detachment funds may be used for alterations. Lightweight blue jackets with embroidered USAF logo will be issued to AS 400 and extended cadets at the first LLAB of the fall term. No other cadet is authorized wear of the USAF logo on the lightweight blue jacket.

★3.3.5.2. Configuration.

★3.3.5.2.1. The Air Force logo is to be embroidered in a polyester thread conforming to DOD Heraldic Yarn for Embroidery and Ribbon, Cable # HA White 67101 with a stiff tear-off backing. The total stitch count of the logo and lettering shall be 4,631 stitches minimum.

★3.3.5.2.2. The Wing symbol is to fit within a 2 inch by 2 1/8 inch square. There is a 1/4 inch space between the symbol's lowest point and the top of the U.S. AIR FORCE type (a). The U.S. AIR FORCE type is to be 1/4 inch high, 3 1/4 inches long is Berthord Aklindenz Grotesk bold extended. If Berthord Aklindenz Grotesk is not available, use all capital Arial bold font, 24 point. (See Figure 10.24. for example.)

★3.3.5.2.3. The symbol is to be embroidered on the upper left chest. The dot in the center of the symbol shall be centered vertically between the shoulder seam and where the underarm side seam joins the armhole sleeve and centered horizontally between the center zipper and the sleeve armhole seam. (See Figure 10.25. for example.)

★3.3.6. All-Weather Coat. Cadets are authorized to wear the all-weather coat IAW AFI 36-2903. If not issued by the detachment, cadets may purchase for wear. When worn, the all-weather coat should fit over the service dress jacket loose enough to accommodate the shoulders of the service dress jacket without binding at the armholes when the arms are removed. Sleeves will extend 1/2 inch beyond the service dress jacket sleeves. The length of the coat will fall between knee length to 6 inches below the back crease of the knee. The top button may be left unbuttoned when worn. Jackets may be worn with or without the insulated liner. The all-weather coat is not authorized to be worn indoors. Wear metallic rank insignia on the epaulets as described in paragraph 10.2.3. and Figure 10.3.

★3.3.8.1. White v-neck T-shirts are required for wear by male cadets with the service uniform (optional for female cadets). Only the white v-neck T-shirt will be worn with the service uniform. Tank top style t-shirts are not authorized. White v-neck t-shirts are purchased at the expense of the cadet.

★3.5.2. Book bags. Book bags (solid dark blue or solid black in color) are authorized for wear with any uniform. If wearing a book bag with the uniform, the bag should present an acceptable appearance and be in good condition. Book bags may be worn over both of the cadet's shoulders. If cadet chooses to wear a book bag over one shoulder, it must be worn over the left shoulder. If wearing BDUs, cadets are also authorized to wear woodland camouflage or olive drab color book bags. Book bags that are not authorized colors must be carried in the left hand, except as authorized for safety concerns in paragraph 3.7. Book bags provided by AFROTC as recruiting promotional items or other AFROTC provided book bags may be worn if the detachment commander determines they are consistent with the professional image intended by this paragraph. Only solid black color book bags are authorized when worn off-campus or on military installations. Although many colors are authorized on campus, it is recommended that cadets use solid black color book bags as they are the most versatile, may be worn with any uniform combination, and may be worn on or off-campus and on military installations.

★**3.5.3. Cellular phones, pagers, and beepers.** Authorize one small, black, nondescript personal digital assistant (PDA), pager, or cellular phone at a time be worn on the uniform belt. Use of a black case or cover is authorized if the device is not black.

★**3.5.5. Sunglasses and Eyeglasses.** Sunglasses and eyeglasses will be conservative in style (no faddish or mirrored lenses are authorized.) No sunglasses will be worn when in formation, unless prescribed by an optometrist. Sunglasses will not be worn around the neck, on the top of the head, or hanging from the uniform in any way. Frames may be black or brown material or gold/silver wire. Conservative wrap-around style sunglasses are authorized. Small, conservative ornamentation on nonprescription sunglasses and eyeglasses is authorized. Brand name glasses may be worn with a small, conservative logo on the frames of lens. If worn, the logo must be same color as frames or lens.

★**3.5.6.2. Bracelets and Watches.** Cadets may wear one conservative watch and one conservative colored bracelet (silver, gray, black, medium to dark blue, medium to dark shades of brown, including POW/MIA bracelets or medical bracelets) that does not detract from a proper military image, and is not wider than one inch. Only one bracelet or watch may be worn on each wrist.

★**3.5.6.4.2. Females.** Earrings may be worn by female cadets if they are small and conservative. They must be white pearl, gold, silver, black, or diamond, and be spherical in shape (studs). Earrings may be worn with all uniforms except when it is determined to be a safety problem. Earrings may be clip-on, but they must fit tightly against the ear and must not extend below the earlobe. Only one earring may be worn in each earlobe.

★**3.5.7. Military creases.** Military creases are not authorized in AF Uniforms. Creases will only be on sleeves and pant legs.

★**3.5.8. Hands in pockets.** In accordance with AFI 36-2903, placing hands in pockets for reasons other than retrieving items is not authorized.

★**3.6.1.1.** Hair will present a tapered appearance on both the sides and back, both with and without headgear. A tapered appearance is one that when viewed from any angle outlines the cadet's hair so that it conforms to the shape of the head, curving inward to the natural termination point not touch the ears. Only closely cut or shaved hair on the back of the neck will touch the collar. Hair will not exceed 1¼ inch in length or ¼ inch at the natural termination point. Block cut is permitted with tapered appearance. Hair in the front will not protrude from under the flight cap when worn. No visible foreign items will be attached to the hair. Males cadets are authorized to cleanly shave their heads or have military high- and tight haircuts. See Table 3.3., line 4.

★**3.6.2.1.** Hair will be clean and neatly arranged. It will not be worn in any style which falls below the bottom edge of the collar while in uniform (to include straggling or "wispy" strands of hair), exceed 3 inches in bulk, or prevent the proper wear of headgear. Hair may be visible in front of the flight cap, but will not touch the eyebrows. Decorative hair ornaments such as ribbons may not be worn. Pins, combs, or barrettes, similar in color to the individual's hair, may

be worn to keep hair in place, unless participating in an activity where such pins are unsafe. Conservative, black pins, barrettes, etc., may be worn with all hair colors. See Table 3.3., line 5.

★3.7.2.1. Deleted.

★3.7.2.2. Deleted.

★Table 3.2. Clothing/Accessory Standards.

Line	To present the proper military image	Will be
1	Clothing	Neat, clean, pressed, proper fit, in good condition, zipped, snapped or buttoned.
2	Footwear	Shined, in good repair.
3	Watch	Conservative. No more than one watch may be worn at a time.
★ 4	Bracelet	Cadets may wear one conservative watch and one conservative colored bracelet (silver, gray, black, medium to dark blue, medium to dark shades of brown, including POW/MIA bracelets or medical bracelets) that does not detract from a proper military image, and is not wider than one inch. Only one bracelet or watch may be worn on each wrist.
5	Rings	Conservative. A maximum of three at any time.
★ 6	Eyeglasses and sunglasses	Sunglasses and eyeglasses will be conservative in style (no faddish or mirrored lenses are authorized.) No sunglasses will be worn when in formation, unless prescribed by an optometrist. Sunglasses will not be worn around the neck, on the top of the head, or hanging from the uniform in any way. Frames may be black or brown material or gold/silver wire. Conservative wrap-around style sunglasses are authorized. Small, conservative ornamentation on nonprescription sunglasses and eyeglasses is authorized. Brand name glasses may be worn with a small, conservative logo on the frames of lens. If worn, the logo must be same color as frames or lens.
7	Necklaces	Conservative. Concealed under collar or undershirt.
8	Pencils and pens	Concealed.
★ 9	Beepers and cellular phone	Authorize one small, black, nondescript personal digital assistant (PDA), pager, or cellular phone at a time be worn on the uniform belt. Use of a black case or cover is authorized if the device is not black.
10	Headphones and earphones	Prohibited unless required to perform duties.
11	Umbrella	Plain, solid black or dark blue, carried in left hand.

Line	To present the proper military image	Will be
★ 12	Book bag/back pack, attaché case	Book bags (solid dark blue or solid black in color) are authorized for wear with any uniform. If wearing a book bag with the uniform, the bag should present an acceptable appearance and be in good condition. Book bags may be worn over both of the cadet's shoulders. If cadet chooses to wear a book bag over one shoulder, it must be worn over the left shoulder. If wearing BDUs, cadets are also authorized to wear woodland camouflage or olive drab color book bags. Book bags that are not authorized colors must be carried in the left hand, except as authorized for safety concerns in paragraph 3.7.2. Book bags provided by AFROTC as recruiting promotional items or other AFROTC provided book bags may be worn if the detachment commander determines they are consistent with the professional image intended by this paragraph. Only solid black color book bags are authorized when worn off-campus or on military installations. Although many colors are authorized on campus, it is recommended that cadets use solid black color book bags as they are the most versatile, may be worn with any uniform combination, and may be worn on or off-campus and on military installations.
13	Religious head covering	See AFI 36-2903 Table 2.6. Detachment commanders and FTU/CCs will consult with nearest USAF chaplain for guidance before approving religious head covering. If approved, covering must be concealed under headgear.
14	Other religious apparel and items	See AFI 36-2903 Table 2.6. Concealed or worn during religious services or at home. Do not wear approved items during parades, ceremonial drills and functions, or in official photos. Detachment commanders and FTU/CCs will consult with nearest USAF chaplain for further guidance before establishing policy for wear at detachment or FTU.
15	Reflective safety gear	Detachment commanders and FTU/CCs establish policy on wearing reflective arm, wrist, or waist bands with PTUs or other uniforms as necessary.
16	Motor safety items, rain suits	Wear while riding or operating two-wheeled vehicles.

★ Table 3.3. Personal Grooming Standards.

Line	Item of Grooming (M-Men, W-Women)	Will be/have	Will not
1	Beards (M)		be worn except if authorized by commander for health reasons. Cadet must have a doctor's note and commander's permission. See paragraph 3.6.1.4. for further instructions. (See Note 2.)
2	Cosmetics (W)	conservative and in good taste.	
3	Hair, Overall Standard (M&W)	Clean, well-groomed, and neat. If dyed, will look natural.	contain excessive amounts of grooming aides or touch eyebrows when groomed.
★ 4	Hair Style (M)	a tapered appearance on both sides and back, both with or without headgear. Cleanly shaven heads and military high-and-tight haircuts are authorized. See paragraph 3.6.1.1. for further instruction.	be worn in an extreme or faddish style or violate safety requirements. Will not touch the ears and only closely cut or shaved hair on back of neck will touch collar. Will not exceed 1¼ inch in length, or ¼ inch at natural termination point. Will not have any visible foreign items attached.
★ 5	Hair Style (W)	Present a professional appearance. Plain, conservative pins, combs, headbands, elastic bands, and barrettes similar to hair color permitted to keep hair in place. Conservative black hairpins, etc., are authorized with all hair colors. See paragraph 3.6.2.1.	be worn in extreme or faddish style or violate safety requirements. Extend past parallel line with bottom edge of collar on any side. Exceed 3 inches in bulk. Prevent proper wear of headgear. Hair ornaments such as ribbons or jeweled pins prohibited.
5a	Ponytails	Worn only at commander's discretion.	extend past parallel line with bottom edge of collar, exceed 3 inches in bulk, or prevent proper wear of headgear. Hair ornaments prohibited.
6	Mustache (M)		extend downward beyond the lipline of the upper lip or extend sideways beyond a vertical line drawn upward from the corner of the mouth (does not apply to cadets with shaving waivers).
7	Nail Polish (W)	conservative, single color, and in good taste.	contain any ornamentation.
8	Sideburns (M)	Neatly trimmed and tapered. Will be straight and even in width (not flared) and end in a clean-shaven horizontal line.	extend below the lowest part of the exterior ear opening (does not apply to cadets with shaving waivers).

Notes:

1. The items listed represent common appearance issues. This list is not all inclusive.
2. Commanders do not have the authority to waive appearance and grooming standards except as identified in Table 3.3., line 1.

★**5.5.3.** Socks worn with BDUs must be black. White socks are not authorized.

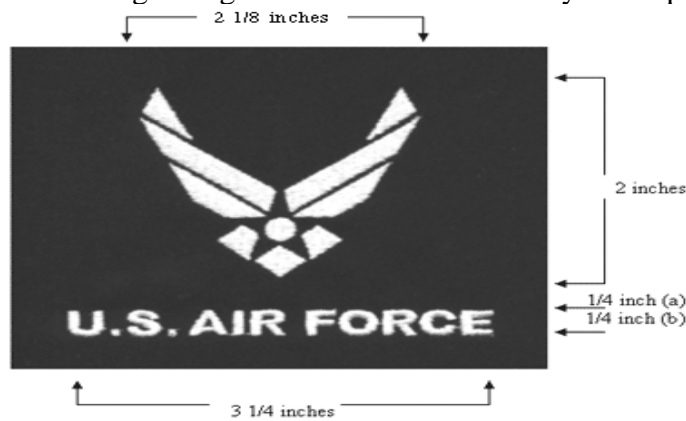
★**6.3.2.1.** All patches must be attached to the flight suit by the use of velcro. Do not sew any patches on the flight suit.

★**6.5.5. Scarves.** Detachment scarves are authorized. Color of scarves will be determined by the detachment commander and consistent with university colors.

★**7.3.4. Headgear.** Detachment commanders may approve local wear of black “watch” caps with the PTU during cold or inclement weather if purchased by the cadet. Detachment ball caps designed IAW paragraph 5.3.2. may not be worn with the PTU. The BDU cap will not be worn with the PTU.

★**10.4.1.3.** Cadet officers are authorized to wear gold/silver combination “Prop & Wings” (gold wings and silver propeller) if a relative was a member of the Army Air Corps, if a parent has at least 20 years of military service, if a parent died in the line of duty, or if a parent participated in active combat as a member of any U.S. military service. Vanguard Part # 3680101

★**Figure 10.24.** Lightweight Blue Jacket Embroidery Size Specifications



★**Figure 10.25.** Lightweight Blue Jacket Embroidery Placement

